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THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNICATOR

Vol. 3, Issue 4

Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New
Year
To
All!

FREE

HALIBURTON COUNTY'S GOOD NEWS ONLY FUN FREE NEWSPAPER



Let It Snow - Let It Snow -
Let It Snow!!

It was definately snowing this year for the Wilberforce Santa Claus Parade. As you might see from these photos, it was snowing quite hard. But the parade continued right on schedule, and all were in the Christmas spirit.

Happy
Holidays
To One
and All



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Important Dates In Christmas History

1510 - A decorated Christmas tree recorded at Riga, Latvia.
1610 - Tinsel invented in Germany.
1660 - Record of a tree lit with candles in Germany.
1773 - Santa Claus started appearing in the American press as "St. A Claus"
1800 - Tree ornaments being manufactured in Europe.
1819 - Popular sketch by Krimmel released depicting an American family with a Christmas tree on the table.
1822 - German merchants living in England have decorated trees in their homes.
1823 - Clement Moore, an American, writes A Visit From Saint Nicholas for his family (now known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas")-published in 1848
1833 - Red poinsettias sold in Philadelphia
1841 - Christmas crackers being manufactured in England.
1843 - Charles Dickens writes A Christmas Carol.
1846 - Illustration London News publishes a picture of the Royal Family gathered around a Christmas tree. The picture helps popularize the tabletop Christmas tree.
1860-1880 - Illustrator Thomas Nast, introduced a rotund Santa for Christmas issues of Harper's magazine. He added details like Santa's workshop at the North Pole and Santa's list of the good and bad children of the world.
1880 - German glass ornaments sold in Woolworth's.
1882 - First electric Christmas tree lights sold in New York.

1892 - Wire hook for hanging tree ornaments is patented in the United States.
1896 - The T. Eaton Company produces its first Christmas catalogue.
1905 - Santa Claus arrives by wagon at the T. Eaton Company store in Toronto.
1917 - J.C. Hall (of Hallmark) imported fancy decorated envelope linings from France to sell as "gift dressing".
1923 - Pink poinsettias produced
1931 - Santa Claus was shown not as an elf, but as human-size in a series of illustrations for Coca-Cola advertisements introduced in 1931. In modern versions of the Santa Claus legend, only his toyshop workers were elves.
1932 - The song "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" was written.
1939 - Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer created by Robert May for an American department store as a Christmas promotion.
1947 - The song "Here Comes Santa Claus" was written.
1947 - The film "Miracle on 34th Street" was released.
2000 - The total cost of all 364 gifts mentioned in the song 12 days of Christmas is \$60,307.18 (or \$93,187.66, if purchased on the Internet)

The Christian Calendar:

How a Pope fixed the Calendar

The Calendar of the Christian world began a century before Jesus Christ, by Roman Emperor Julius Ceasar.

This Julian calendar introduced the notion of leap years, however, there were too many and by 1582, the calendar was ten days out of sync with seasons, and this would only become worse.

The name of the current Calendar: The Gregorian Calendar bears its name due to Pope Gregory XIII. He suggested to drop out three leap years in every four hundred years. The calendar will not fall out of step until 5000 AD. A small fix, will keep it in tune until 15000 AD.

Seasons Greetings from
Stephen, Patricia, Cody & Riley
and Jake "The Greeter" 🐾



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**Treasure
The Moments**

Christmas is a time for celebrating. We hope that this season brings you joy, hope and peace as you gather with friends and family. And may the light and warmth of the season and throughout your life in the coming year.

**Andy, Mary & Gail
Kitchen's Etc.**

Haliburton

Northern Lights Traffic Ticket Fighters

Andy Can Help Ease Your Stress & Be Your Voice In Court!!

So you got pulled over and you were given a traffic violation fine? Ouch.... Now what do you do?

You either pay and accept the fine and whatever comes with it, or you can fight the it with the help of Andy Chvedukas, owner of Northern Lights Traffic Ticket Fighters.

Andy is a retired police officer – he served 28 years on the Toronto Police force, mostly investigative work involving drug investigations and various other criminal investigations, combined with day to day uniform activity experience over the years.

Andy retired and moved to Haliburton, a place he's been visiting since 1962. He is one of three partners in Kitchen's Etc in Haliburton – but you probably won't find him there much – he is usually busy with other tasks, including representing people in their quest to rid themselves of their new found traffic violation.

Andy started "helping people" with their fines after he helped a friend resolve a traffic issue. "I used some of my past experience and went to court with him and successfully defended him. After that," Andy explains, "several other people started approaching me and asking for help in defending them as well, at which point I realized there was a need for my type of service in the community." He continues, "one thing lead to another and I started up the service."

So far he has defended a couple dozen people in the area who were facing charges ranging from speeding to no insurance and careless driving. "There are a wide assortment of Hwy Traffic Act charges that I can help people with," he says.

Calling Andy could potentially, and probably will, save you a lot of money in the end – especially when it comes to insurance costs. "Careless driving is a big one. The fine for careless is small in comparison to the insurance cost that you encounter for the next 3-4 years. Insurance Companies will raise your insurance – you can add 50 – 100% of your premium for the next 3-4 years."

As an example, Andy explains that a young person who may be currently paying \$2,000 per year insurance can add approximately \$2,000 per year more to that bill over the next 3-4 years, if convicted of a careless driving offence. "That's a \$6,000 cost over that time period," exclaims Andy.

Even with speeding, most insurance companies will forgive the first offence, but not always and not if it is a multiple offence. "Once you start losing points – then your insurance company has a chance to raise your rates." If you are about to lose 4-6 points and can have it lowered to 2-3, your insurance company will look at that in a more favourable fashion."

Calling Andy could even possibly make it all disappear.

"I know I can help in getting some sort of favourable result in the long run," he says. If you receive a fine, give Andy a call and he will set up an appointment to discuss your offence. He can then represent you as your agent in the court process. "I can go as an agent, settle the matter, without you even going," he explains.

"To some people, it's quite a frightening experience to go to court. I can ease the stress, worry and assist them in their needs by representing them in court."

Andy is enjoying his new venture as he feels he is helping the community he lives in. He highly commends the officers in the area and speaks very highly of them all. "I ran a division in the city with 27 people working under me – from investigators to street officers. The men up here are good officers. I know what they go through with the manpower they have – they do an excellent job."

He feels that traffic infractions have increased over the years, and feels it has a lot to due with the cars themselves. "Infractions now are definitely up, not just due to the population. I just



Ticket Fighters cont'd... pg. 6 ...



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Haliburton

David Foster **457-3177**

Homebuilder's Hockey Tournament Set for January - Register Your Team Now!!

The arena in Haliburton is always a bustle of activity, and that won't change on January 30 - Feb 1 as approximately 18 teams comprised mostly of our area builders, will be competing in their 6th annual Home Builders Charity Hockey Tournament in Haliburton.

This tournament offers two divisions - an open division for any non-members to participate, and the Home Builders division, closed to members only. The cost per team is \$500, and is non-contact hockey.

"It has really grown over the past few years," says organizer Aggie Tose. "We started with 6 teams." The organizers are still seeking sponsors for ice time. "You can sponsor half an hour right up to two hours," explains Aggie. The cost to sponsor is \$92 per hour or \$46 per half hour.

Proceeds from this worthwhile cause goes to the 4c's for the Haliburton County Food Bank. Aggie explains that they chose this charity because, "after Christmas, there isn't much food left in the food bank. We, the homebuilders association, like to be involved in the community and we felt this was a very worthwhile cause."

Spectators are encouraged to come out and watch the hockey excitement. "It's fun hockey. We want people in there watching," says Aggie. Admission to watch is by donation.

The games get underway at approximately 6 p.m. on the Friday. Finals are held on the Sunday in the afternoon.

For more information, or to obtain a registration form contact Wade Woodward at 457-2638, or Aggie at 457-2629. You can also check the website at www.haliburtonhomebuilders.on.ca

So Simple Yet Such A Precious Gift To Give... "Your Time"

Could you volunteer 1 to 3 hours a week and spend time with a child who is facing a special challenge, or could you volunteer to drive a child to a medical appointment or recreational activity.

Family Services of Haliburton County is looking for caring and responsible individuals to volunteer in the following communities:

Haliburton, Wilberforce and Cardiff

Volunteer drivers are needed in Haliburton, Wilberforce and Cardiff area. Drivers are reimbursed \$0.38/km to cover out-of-pocket driving expenses.

Haliburton

Haliburton - to help a 10-year-old-boy with homework and take him to community activities (bowling, movie).

Wilberforce

Wilberforce - spend time with a 15-year-old-boy who loves to fish, play basketball and weight lift.

Haliburton

Haliburton - assist a 16-year-old-boy who has some physical and communication challenges - he enjoys bowling, video games, music and movies.

Donald

Donald - a male role model to do "guy things" (play ball, fish skate, snow sliding) with a 9 year old boy.

Minden

Minden - to assist a 9-year-old-girl with her social skills development by attending community activities together.

Kinmount

Kinmount - to help a 10-year-old-girl with her homework 2 or 3 times a week.

Wilberforce

Wilberforce - to support a 4-year-old girl with her physical development by playing outdoors, kicking a ball, skating, snow sliding.

If you would like to find out more about Family Services Volunteer Program, please call Marilou at 457-5345 ext 308



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Publisher, Editor, Reporter/Photo, Layout:
Joanne Welsh - "The Happy Cracker"

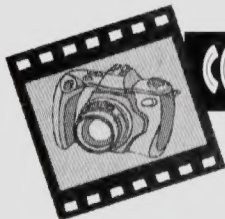
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COOL PIC OF THE MONTH

This picture is enough to make me want to stay out of the ocean for a while. I wouldn't want to be the surfer - that's for sure!!



If Wile E Coyote had enough money to buy all that ACME crap, why didn't he just buy himself dinner??

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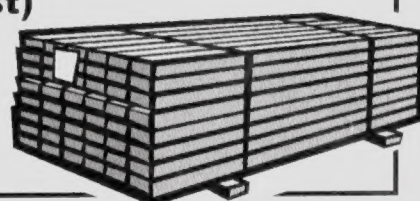
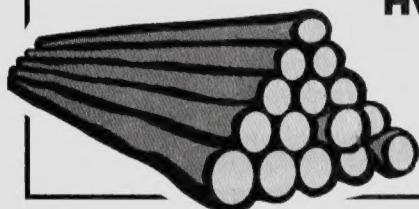
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Traffic Ticket Fighters cont'd...

... from pg. 3

seems the way cars are built today – it's easier to speed or drive at a faster rate of speed – combined with our busy lives – I guess that is why infractions are up."

When it comes to fines, Andy's knowledge can probably help you. His fees are more than fair compared to some of his competitors because Andy wants to be fair to the people in the community in which he lives. "I'm really trying to help out my community. My fees are negotiable. And," he adds, "If I don't win, you don't pay me."

If you need his services, you can reach Andy at 457-4140 or 1-888-679-5234. You can also find his ad in the auto section of The Communicator.

Examples of Fines & Points

These are the fines imposed for speeds set out in the following order:

\$3.00 for every km up to 20 over; \$4.50 for every km between 20 and 34 over; \$7.00 for every km between 35 and 49 over; \$9.75 for every km over 49 km/ph

In addition, if speeding is in excess of 50 km/h, up to a 30 day licence suspension may be imposed.

Points : 6 points for a conviction of 50km and over; 4 points for a conviction by 30 to 50 km's over; 3 points for a conviction of 16 to 29 km's over; 15 km's and under—No points.



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All I Need to Know about Life I Learned From a Snowman

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Wearing white is always appropriate.

Winter is the best of the four seasons.

It takes a few extra rolls to make a good midsection.

There's nothing better than a foul weather friend.

The key to life is to be a jolly, happy soul.

It's not the size of the carrot, but the placement that counts.

We're all made up of mostly water.

You know you've made it when they write a song about you.

Accessorize! Accessorize! Accessorize!

Avoid yellow snow. Don't get too much sun.

It's embarrassing when you can't look down and see your feet.

It's fun to hang out in your front yard.

Always put your best foot forward.

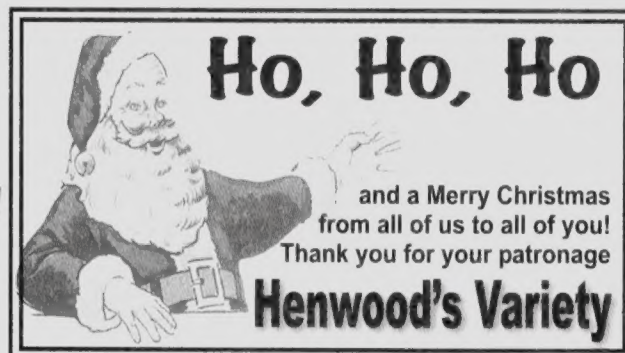
There's no stopping you once you're on a roll.

Have you ever thought of including the wildlife of your neighbourhood in all the feasting and merriment of the season?

Begin a tradition that will charm the children and your gathered friends. Prepare a special treat tree for the birds and squirrels of your neighbourhood.

Plan a party to decorate it with small squares of suit tied with ribbon, strings of cranberries and popcorn, small net sachets filled with fat or butter, and roping of tiny pretzels strung on paper ribbon. Decorative crackers placed among the pine branches also make endearing ornaments. Use paper ribbon to attach the decorations. Make the colors festive.

Make sure too, that it is easy for the birds and squirrels to loosen and remove food gifts tied with the ribbon. You won't have to worry about food. Serve the snacks you'll be using to decorate the tree, popcorn, pretzels, crackers and cranberries. Add some steaming hot chocolate as the finale, and you should have a satisfied crew.



Ho, Ho, Ho

and a Merry Christmas
from all of us to all of you!
Thank you for your patronage

Henwood's Variety

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Announces Three Years of Funding Through The Ontario Trillium Foundation

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton is excited to announce that The Ontario Trillium Foundation is providing \$75,000 in funding over the next three years.

The funding will be used to maintain the In-School Mentoring Program in both The City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, while the organization works on a Sustainability Plan that will ensure that mentoring programs can continue to be offered to children in our community.

Jim DeFlorio states "The Ontario Trillium Foundation is a great supporter of the Big Brothers Big Sisters movement right across Ontario, assisting the movement in increasing the number of children served through our mentoring programs. Locating funding to support Big Brothers and Big Sisters mentoring programs in Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton is becoming more difficult, so it is a relief when a foundation such as The Ontario Trillium Foundation recognizes the benefits of mentoring and steps forward to financially assist in the development of our programs."

**Be part of
this great
organization:
Call
324-6800**

The Sustainability Plan will focus on Big Brothers Big Sisters organizing fundraising events in the community that will support the programs offered to children from single parent families. Statistics Canada indicated in 2001 that

there were 2,290 single parent families in The City of Kawartha Lakes and 430 single parent families in Haliburton County. This translates into a large number of children that can benefit from a positive adult role model. Children are matched with mentors through the various programs Big Brothers Big Sisters offer. (Traditional One-to-One and Couples program, In-School Mentoring program and the E-Mentoring program)

If anyone is interested in working with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton fundraising ventures, Board of Directors or Children's Programs they can call 324-6800 for more information.



It's The Law!

These are actual laws that have been passed. Some have since been altered or removed but some remain on the books.

In Carmel, New York, it's against the law for a man to go out wearing a jacket that doesn't match his pants.

Onions were banned in many places in ancient India, and people who ate them were required to do so outside city limits!

In Berea, Ohio, dogs and cats out after dark were once required to wear taillights!

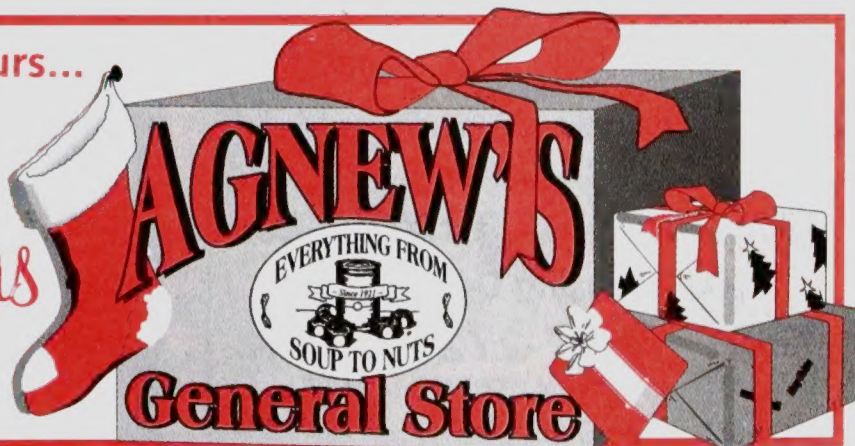
It's against the law in New York city to open an umbrella in front of a horse!

Merry Christmas
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Tim and Wilfred

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from Agnew's*



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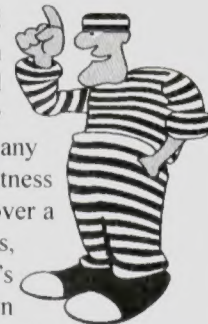
Now here's a truly beautiful gift for someone you love, or even for yourself. This set is perfect if you have that right spot and will certainly be adored by all who see it.

This desk unit is available at CottageCountry Log Cabin gift store in West Guilford. There is also a bar that is shaped out of the canoe as well. Ask to see what else they have from this supplier!!



Dumb Criminals

But They're In Style!!: A man walked into a Subway sandwich shop in Hendersonville, N.C., pulled a gun and jumped over the counter. He promptly fell down and ran out without getting any money. As a store employee and a witness pursued the robber he tried to hop over a fence. But, a police spokesman says, "Due to the bagginess of the suspect's pants, he became stuck upside down on the fence. When officers arrived the suspect was stuck on the fence, hanging upside down with his baggy pants situated around his ankles." Before officers could arrest Noah Donell Brown, 24, they had to cut his pants off to free him.



Why do banks charge you an "Insufficient funds" fee on money they already know you don't have?

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Nordic Notes: Cross County Ski Season Looking Good!!

By Blake Paton

Well, it is time again to get on board the ski club express. Destination: a great winter!

Often at this time of year we are wondering when we will start skiing-not this year! Skiing has already begun!

The winter storm of November 28th dumped just enough snow to create a base, and we were blessed by the weather gods with a good combination of weather to help it solidify into a skiable base. The result: the 1.5km lit loop at Glebe Park was ready on the 29th of November-a new record!

This is not just happy coincidence, either. It has taken a concentrated effort of many years to create smooth trail that is ready to be skied with minimal snow. The ski community began working toward this goal years ago when it seemed like global warming might wreak havoc with our sport.

In addition, one consequence of global warming has been an increase in lake-effect snow throughout December, a side-effect observed by climatologists. This is, therefore, the second consecutive year when skiing has begun by December first.

This year people can get on snow early, and that means that competitive skiers can begin their training year earlier. Good luck to the young athletes who are part of the HHSS ski team! Vancouver is hosting the winter Olympics in 2010, will any of you be representing Canada? Dream big!

There is a ski-life before and after peak competitive years. The

Haliburton Ski Club offers Jackrabbit learn-to-ski lessons, junior racing programs and senior social ski outings.

Best of all, the club has committed itself to making sure that everyone who wants to ski can do so. It offers an economical season's pass, low-cost equipment rentals for kids, and it arrange for volunteer work for anyone who wishes to ski but can't afford the price of a membership—because no one should go through life without skiing.

If you need more information visit <http://www.skihaliburton.8m.com> or call 457-5177. Meanwhile, renew your membership, because it looks like you'll need it!

Cross-Country Ski Workshop Perfect For Variety of Ages & Skill Levels

Here is a great way to enjoy the beauty of winter outdoors. Experience the one-day cross-country skiing workshops available at the Kinark Outdoor Centre near Minden, then enjoy the rest of the season experiencing what you've learned in the rest of the county.

Lessons are available for various age groups including students (gr.3 & up), family groups, adults, retirees. Lessons are presented by Ski For Life and Sharpley Source for Sports.

Instructors provide skis, boots and poles along with competent qualified instruction in a non-threatening games approach that appeals to beginners, novices, and intermediate skiers.

Dates for these workshops are Saturday, January 10, 2004 and Saturday, February 14, 2004. Cost is \$25.00 - \$35.00. Food & accommodation is also available.

The Kinark Outdoor Centre offers a secluded setting and quiet surroundings in the majestic Haliburton Highlands; it is ideal for the relaxed conference, workshop or retreat. It is located 6km west of Carnarvon just off Highway 118 on Queen's Line.

The lessons are being provided by Ski for Life, whose instructors provide cross-country skiing instruction in Southern and Central Ontario. The lessons focus upon the development of fundamental skiing skills while teaching not only the importance of physical fitness but also demonstrating cross-country skiing as an active winter lifestyle. The friendly and competition free approach used by Ski for Life provides a comfortable learning environment that is appealing to beginner, novice, and intermediate skiers of all ages. No experience necessary.

To register for workshop and for information, please call Dan Mahony at 705-286-3555.



Wishing Everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



from all of us to all of you!!

Haliburton 457-1402

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Why does sour cream have an expiration date?

THAT'S LIFE ...

by the Bashful Comic



You Know You've Had Too Much Holiday Cheer When....

1. You notice your tie sticking out of your fly
2. Someone uses your tongue for a coaster
3. You start kissing the portraits on the wall
4. You see your underwear hanging from the chandelier
5. You have to hold on to the floor to keep from sliding off
6. You strike a match and light your nose.
7. You take off your shoes and wade in the potato salad.
8. You hear someone say, "Call a priest!"
9. You hear a duck quacking and it's you.
10. You complain about the small bathroom after emerging from the closet.
11. You refill your glass from the fish bowl
12. You tell everyone you have to go home... and the party's at your place.
13. You ask for another ice cube and put it in your pocket.
14. You yawn at the biggest bore in the room... and realize you're in front of the hall mirror.
15. You pick up a roll, and butter your watch.
16. You suggest everyone stand and sing the national budget.
18. You're at the dinner table and you ask the hostess to pass a bedpan.
19. You take out your handkerchief and blow your ear.
20. You tell your best joke to the rubber plant.
21. You realize you're the only one under the coffee table

Remember This At Christmas Time

Submitted by Michelle Pierson

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December.

Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring.

Therefore, according to EVERY historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, EVERY single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl.

We should've known. ONLY women would be able to drag a chubby man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be!!

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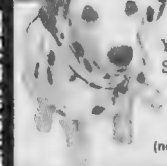
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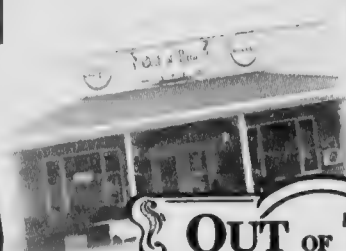
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HAPPY HOLIDAY

Dog Teams Compete For The Richest Purse In Ontario!

The Haliburton Highlands will be hosting a World Cup (International Federation of Sled Dog Sports, IFSS) accredited race. The 3rd annual sprint race will feature 4, 6, & 8 dog teams racing 4, 6 & 8 miles respectively and include both Open & Purebred classes. The races will start & finish in downtown Haliburton Village.

Mushers and dog-teams from Canada & the USA will race out of Haliburton Village across frozen Head Lake and through a beautiful snowy wilderness park to compete for the richest dog derby purse in Ontario of \$15,000. Last year over 84 teams from across North America participated. Race organizers guarantee ample spectator viewing locales in Head Lake Park to watch the excitement of the start, finish and all events. Two additional spectator viewing areas out on the trail will be accessible, and there is also unlimited free parking.

Races start on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. Following the opening the 4 dog race will commence, followed by the 6 dogs and then the 8 dog. The popular and entertaining Kid & Mutt and Celebrity races will be held on Saturday around 1:30.

Sunday's schedule will be the same except that the races will start at 8:30 a.m. Great spectator viewing, free parking & admission. Please leave your pet dogs at home.

New This Year:

The unique sport of Skijoring has been added this year. What is that you ask?... It is one or two dogs pulling a person on cross country skis. This is actually an accredited sport as well. It will be taking place at the Delta Pinestone starting at 2:30 on Saturday and again on Sunday at 1:30. "This is really interesting to watch," says organizer Tanya McCreedy-DeBruin.

**If it's true that we are here to help others,
then what exactly are the others here for?**

Holiday Greetings



**Thank You to all my customers for their
support in 2003. Wishing everyone the
best in 2004!!**

Pine Reflections Gift & Garden Centre

Carnarvon - 489-1397

Radar Races Starting Up Soon!!

Snowmobilers & spectators get ready ... Once the ice is thick enough, let the races begin - Radar races that is at Elephant Lake Lodge every Saturday and Sunday.

"We need 12 inches of ice on the lake so we can get out with the truck and plough," says organizer Cindy Baumhour. "Once the ice is thick enough, it's race time." The races are tentatively set to start around the weekend of January 3-4, 2004.

This will be the 8th year for the popular races that are fun for both participants and spectators. There are different categories to compete in, depending on the size of snowmobile you have. "Fast machines do not race against the slower ones, that wouldn't be fair," explains Cindy. "The class depends on the CC's of your machine." She adds, "Some of the faster machines reach speeds of 126 mph.!"

There is a small fee to enter, and this event is open to anyone wishing to participate. The radar runs go from 1:00 - 4:00 every Saturday & Sunday. Cash prizes are awarded to the winners. The amount of the prizes is dependent on the number of entrées. Winners receive 50% of the entr   fees in their category.

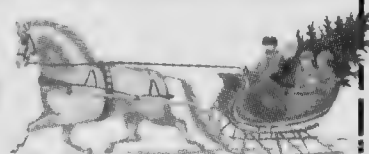
There are also oval track races. These are different from the standard weekly radar races. The oval races are usually held only once a month. Cindy will be glad to let you know when they are scheduled for this race season.

"It's a blast to watch," says Cindy. "It gets pretty loud too. It's like sitting in a pit stop at a car track." The oval track is 4km around the lake.

Now all that is left is to wait for the right conditions. For more information or to verify race conditions, you may contact Cindy or Sandy at 448-2861.

Be sure to come on out this winter at least once to catch the excitement!

**Happy Holidays
from Our Family
to Yours!**



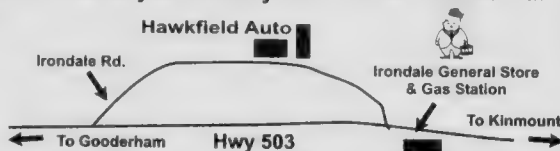
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Believe It Or Not!!

Did You Know... Quick Turkey Facts:

She's An Old Bird

Fossil evidence indicates that turkeys roamed North America as long as 10 million years ago.

Pluck Away

Turkeys have an estimated 3,500 feathers at maturity.

Their Quick

Wild turkeys can fly short distances at speeds up to 90 km/hr and can run at speeds up to 40 km/hr.

We're in the Top 10!!

Canada has the 6th highest turkey production levels in the world.

Chris Chris Chris....

Columbus thought that the turkey was a type of peacock. People in Sri Lanka call peacocks "tuka" (which really sounds like turkey). Columbus thought he was in a land connected to India when he arrived in America and some think that he may be the source of the name for the turkey.

Left Overs For A Month.. Eeegads!!

The Guinness Book of Records states that the largest dressed weight (cooked, with dressing) recorded for a turkey is 39.09 kg (86 lbs) on December 12, 1989.

Is This For Real....

Before modern transportation methods, farmers in the British Isles would put leather shoes on their turkeys and walk them into town.

I Know I Get Sleepy...Now I Know Why...

Some people think they feel sleepy after a roast turkey dinner.

Turkey contains many of our essential dietary amino acids.

One is called L-Tryptophan. One of the first amino acids to appear as a supplement in the early marketing wave of exotic nutrients, it was billed as a natural sleep aid. It is involved in the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter. Serotonin may reduce certain pain reactions and have a tranquilizing effect. Starchy foods such as potatoes and stuffing are high in carbohydrates, which contain L-Tryptophan.



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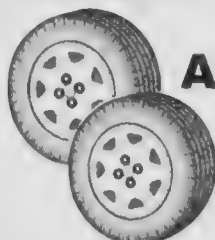
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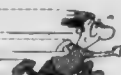
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Don't Miss This Year's Exciting Ice Races In Minden

This event is a must see for all ages. It's fast action with lots of thrills, oooh's aaah's, laughs and excitement. It's the annual Ice Races held at the Minden fairgrounds, beginning January 17 & 18.

The C.A.S.E. Ontario Region Ice Races are FREE to attend and are held every weekend. Races get underway every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday's at 12:00 p.m.

Keep in mind weather conditions – no snow, or if everything is mild and slushy, the race may be cancelled that weekend. If the weather is good – then head on out – it is an event you won't want to miss!

The races are sponsored by the Minden Kinsmen Club. Organizer, Tom Prentice of Minden first stumbled upon ice racing approximately 20 years ago in Peterborough and enjoyed it so much he decided to join in the fun. He became a racer himself and soon brought this exciting event to our area.

The races are broken into different classes each offering different levels of entertainment. The classes are as follows: Rubber Class: front wheel drive, rear wheel drive and 4 wheel drive vehicles. stud tire class: front wheel drive, rear wheel drive and 4-wheel drive.

The rubber class, being that it is held on ice, offers some comical entertainment as you watch vehicles slip and slid on the surface, making their way around the track. Although the speed of the vehicles tend not to surpass some where in the neighbourhood of 40 clicks, the manner in which the racers make their way around the track is fun to view. The studded tire class offers higher speed racing reaching speeds of 80 – 90 km on the snowy, icy track. This on-going event is an absolute riot to watch.

The first race is scheduled for January 17 & 18. The races are then held every weekend for 6 consecutive weekends with two rain date weekends at the end.



The secret to a dog's frost-resistant nose lies beneath its skin: a network of tiny, hard-working blood vessels. More warm blood gets pumped here than anywhere else in the dog's body. So even though a dog's nose is wet, it never gets cold enough to freeze because of the non-stop warmth beneath its skin.

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Merry Christmas!



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SUBARU

Carpentry Pre-Apprenticeship Training Being Offered

For those individuals interested in becoming a licensed carpenter, Sir Sandford Fleming College has an exciting course that you may want to check out. The course involves 12 weeks of in-school training which starts on January 5 - March 28 and 8 weeks of work placement, starting March 31 - May 23.

In school training includes: Level 1 Carpentry Apprenticeship, Academic Upgrading, Employment Skills Training and Safety Training.

Participants must be 16 years of age or older, have completed Grade 10 (transcripts required) and available to start January 5, 2004. All training costs are covered by the MTCU and the safety equipment is supplied. Work placement paid.

This course is offered to encourage people to become involved in the carpentry trade, so give the school a call and join now before it is to late.

For more information, please contact Ted Brandon (Sir Sandford Fleming College) at 457-1680. Space is limited.

Get Your Pledge Forms - It's Snowarama Time!!

If you've got a snowmobile and want to help a great cause while having a great time, head out to the Annual Snowarama for Easter Seal Kids on Saturday, January 24 at the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve.

Participants can raise money through pledges from friends, neighbours, co-workers, etc. to help the kids. The day will consist of a 100-km snowmobile event on the groomed trails of the reserve. Registration is from 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. - then the fun begins!

Last year there were 87 riders who raised almost \$20,000 in pledges. Participants raising \$100 or more in pledges will receive a free lunch, free entrance, and a free tank of gas compliments of Sid Stamp Fuels of Minden.

There are a lot of incentives to participate, including a grand prize of a trip for two to Cuba, Mexico, or the Dominican, depending on the pledges raised.

The annual event is sponsored by the Haliburton Rotary Club. "We've been doing it for over 20 years," says Rotarian Kim Emmerson. It's a great cause, and we enjoy doing it."

The Easter Seal Society helps children, youth and young adults with physical disabilities in many ways. Pledge forms are available at Emmerson Lumber, Haliburton Tim-br Mart, Curry Motors, Sid Stamp Fuels and other locations throughout your area. For more details call Jamie Cowen at 457-3576.

So get your pledge form today and get ready for an awesome day of sledding on January 24.



Not too long ago, the dazed crew of a Japanese trawler were plucked out of the Sea of Japan clinging to the wreckage of their sunken ship. Their rescue, however, was followed by immediate imprisonment once authorities questioned the sailors on their ship's loss. To a man they claimed that a cow, falling out of a clear blue sky, had struck the trawler amidstships, shattering its hull and sinking the vessel within minutes. They remained in prison for several weeks, until the Russian Air Force reluctantly informed Japanese authorities that the crew of one of its cargo planes had apparently stolen a cow wandering at the edge of a Siberian airfield, forced the cow into the plane's hold and hastily taken off for home. Unprepared for live cargo, the Russian crew was ill-equipped to manage a now rampaging cow within its hold. To save the aircraft and themselves, they shoved the animal out of the cargo hold as they crossed the Sea of Japan at an altitude of 30,000 feet

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Our best wishes for happy holidays!
Hope your Christmas is merry and bright and your new year brings you everything you've dreamed of!

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Real Reindeer

It is man's most ancient herd animal, the first animals being raised around 15,000 years ago. Up until about 12,000 years ago, reindeer grazed over a vast area of Europe. Rock paintings by primitive peoples featuring them are widespread, as are discoveries of tools made from reindeer horn. There was even a period of European prehistory in a part of France called Dordogne that is sometimes called "the civilization of reindeer." The only surviving part of such a civilization might be found in Lapland, which is the northern part of Norway, Sweden and Finland. There are only a few thousand Lapps, but they own herds of many thousands of reindeer. From them the Lapps obtain meat, milk, hair for weaving, hides to make tents and clothing, and horn, from which they make households. They are also used to pull heavily laden sleds. It is all these multiple uses that have made reindeer so endearing to people in the North.

Caribou, the name by which the Americans are more familiar with reindeer, comes from an Indian word.

Area Writers Enjoy Networking

The room was elegant, the speaker eloquent, and the 27 people in attendance were each a pleasure to meet - even at 9:00 a.m. on a Saturday morning. Area writers who failed to attend the November meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Writers' and Editors' Network (HHWEN), at the Delta Pinestone Inn, missed an opportunity to spend time with some of this county's most interesting people. And no one could accuse popular speaker, Jack Brezina, of being anything less than crowd-pleasing.

Known for his self-deprecating sense of humor, Jack told of his early start as a newspaper columnist while in grade nine, his years as a factory worker and disk jockey (in the '60s), his return to school, at UWO, to study journalism, and his subsequent career at Cochrane's Northland Post. "I grew to like community newspapers," says the man who until recently owned and edited The Minden Times.

Having returned to radio, with the inauguration of Canoe FM, Brezina currently hosts his own 1-hour program on the Arts every Sunday afternoon. He continues to be an active participant in creating and promoting Haliburton County's new Council for the Arts.

Jack had much industry advice to share with the writers in the room, including ways in which HHWEN could further assist its members. As a token of thanks, he was presented with the organization's first Honorary Membership.

To date, all three of the group's networking meetings have been highly enjoyable, with attendance continuing to climb as a growing number of writers decide to check out the possibility of picking up useful information from other local scribes. If nothing else, it beats struggling alone with words in some remote cabin in the woods. Since meetings are open to anyone who cares to come and are great social events, participants never know what contacts might be possible.

HHWEN's next meeting at Delta Pinestone, is a buffet luncheon on Thursday, January 15, from 1:00 to 3:00, when the speaker will be Juno-nominated songwriter, poet and magical weaver of words, Kenissis Lake's own Lea Harper. In addition to talking about her writing career to date, Lea will read from her latest book of poems. Anyone interested in meeting our community's writers and editors is welcome, but advance reservations are essential for all who wish to attend. To reserve your space, call Marjorie Ludlow Green at 286-2592 by January 12.

During The Holidays

We take great happiness in greeting
all our special friends and customers
this season. May your holiday be
filled with warmth and joy.

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Who Dun-It

Detective Minden was enjoying the annual Christmas festivities in his hometown of Harcourt.

The pancake breakfast in the community centre had given the detective a chance to catch up on local gossip. The parade up Main Street had started promptly at ten, and the flags, the local legion veteran, and the school bands looked and sounded crisp. Prominent local citizens and town officials, and of course the legion reps, smiled and waved as they slowly marched down the street.

Minden was viewing the parade from the sidewalk just outside the local marina. Just as a crack rifle unit was passing in front of him, the parade paused. For two minutes, in absolute silence, the riflers spun and tossed their rifles in complicated and exquisitely timed patterns. When they concluded, the band behind them struck up a march and the parade proceeded, to cheers and enthusiastic applause from the crowd.

A moment later, Minden heard a bellow of rage from the store behind him. Entering it, Minden found the flushed-faced owner, Ollie Tillenburg, standing behind his sales counter holding an empty cash drawer from the register.

"What's wrong, Ollie?" asked Minden, walking up to him.

"This is what's wrong!" Ollie exclaimed, holding out the cash drawer. "This had over \$300 in it five minutes ago, and now the bills are gone!"

"Please tell me what happened."

Ollie drew a long breath as he glared at the four customers standing in his store.

"It's simple enough, detective," he said. "As you know, I stay open until the parade is over, to sell refreshments or any last-minute items. I had just opened my cash drawer to sort my bills when the crowd outside grew quiet. I was wondering what all the commotion was so like a fool I left my cash drawer open and came to the window to watch the rifle squad perform their breathtaking display. At least a few of my customers did the same, but I didn't notice which ones. You could have heard a firing pin drop during the rifle display. When it was over, I came back to the counter and found the money gone!"

Minden was acquainted with two of the customers. One was Helen Troy, a pretty brunette dressed in a tank top, shorts, and

strap clogs, who owned a flower stand in town. The other was Paul Bin, a sandy-haired but balding executive in his 50's. Bin was dressed in an unholidaylike suit and wing-tip shoes. The two other customers were both young men, one with a military crew cut who was dressed in fatigues and boots, the other in a T-shirt, shorts, and sneakers.

A careful look around the store revealed nothing out-of-place to Minden. On display were clothes, camping goods, military paraphernalia, and various knickknacks. The hardwood floor was spit-and-polish, as usual.

Minden asked Ollie, "could anyone have left the store since the theft?"

"Impossible! There's only the one door, and its bell is in working order. You heard it when you came in. And no one else has been in here this morning."

"In that case," said Minden, "I think I know who the culprit is!"

Whom does Minden suspect of the theft and why?

answer... pg. 63 ...

**Case of
the
sneaky
thief!!**

Why do people without a watch, look at their wrist when you ask them what time it is?



 In that long-ago night in Bethlehem, Jesus came into our world, and into our hearts.

All of us wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Mike, Kim
at & Staff**

Party's Jewellery & Gifts



Merry Christmas

Fill your heart with God's light, and spread the love of his message to all you meet.
Wishing you a blessed 2004!

In The Village Barn
Highland Street, Haliburton
457-2223



Master's Book Store

Season's Greetings



May your heart and home be filled with joy during this holiday season and throughout the year.

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Benjamin Moore

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window & loves it!!



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- To be able to receive quick and helpful education about your health concerns?
- To get the know-how you need to stay healthy?
- To know that there is help available for you and your family when you need it most: nutrition counselling, social work, family or group counselling, help accessing other needed services?

A Community Health Centre (CHC) will meet these health needs and more! A proposal to have a CHC in Haliburton County has been submitted to the Ministry of Health... there has been no response, yet ...

We Need Your Help!



Call the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and let him know You want a Community Health Centre in Haliburton County

George Smitherman; Minister of Health & Long-Term Care
Phone - 1-(416) 327-4300
Email - george.smitherman@moh.gov.on.ca
or george_smitherman-mpp@ontla.ola.org

For information about the CHC proposed for the Haliburton Highlands call Beth at 457-1392 ext. 249

Things not to Say When Hanging the Lights

Did you know that hanging lights on a Christmas tree is one of the three most stressful situations in an on-going relationship?

Six's Psychiatrist claims the other two danger zones are teaching your mate to drive and wallpapering. He is rarely wrong on these things.) We rush to print with an emergency prompt list of Things Not To Say When Hanging Lights on the Christmas Tree.

"You've got two red lights right next to each other, dummy. You're supposed to go yellow, green, red, blue, not yellow, red, red, green, blue..."

"Up a little higher. You can reach it. Go on, try."

"What the heck do you do to these lights when you put them away every year? Tie them in knot?"

"Come away from that aluminium ladder, kids. I'm going to fry that sucker."

"If you're not going to do it right, don't do it at all. Don't just throw them on, like you do the icicles. You're worse than your father."

"Give me that!"

"You've got the whole thing on the tree upside-down. The electric pluggee thing should be down here at the bottom, not up at the top."

"I don't care if you have found another two strings, I'm done!"

"You've just wound 'em around and around - I thought we agreed it shouldn't look like a spiral this year?"

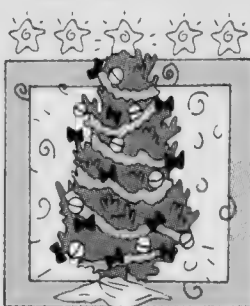
"Have you been drinking?"

"Where's the cat?"



Christmas Carols... Did you know ...

Christmas carols were banned in England around 1650 by Oliver Cromwell because he thought Christmas should be a solemn day. Silent Night was written in 1818 by Joseph Mohr, but the first American Christmas carol called Jesus Is Born was written by John de Brebeur in 1649. Bing Crosby's White Christmas is the biggest selling single of all time.



Deck The Halls!

Hope your holidays are jolly and filled with fun!
Season's Greetings from all your friends at

Curves
"The Power to Amaze Yourself!"



Any Gift from here will make her happy. Kim from Varty's Jewellery just adores these music boxes.

Lets Shop - Locally That Is!!

Stuck for great Christmas Gifts? You need look no further than right in your own hometown. There are lots of great stores with great gift items. This represents just a handful of the great merchants in our area where you can buy great gift items for Christmas or any day. Listed here are these merchants favourite gift picks for this year.



This just in at Highland Leisure in Carnarvon. Talk about fun!! I shot, I scored!!



Chuck from Golden's Stationary suggests a new office chair!



Glen at Sharpley Source for Sports has lots of snowboards & all the gear - your kids will love this gift!!



You should see the assortment of kitchen products at Kitchen's Etc. in Haliburton.



Bonnie Ackerblade at Simply Irresistibles in Minden thinks fudge is a great stocking stuffer!!

I found these treasures in no time and there's lots more out there. Enjoy shopping - and by doing it locally - you're helping everyone!!



If anything wildlife animal like is your desire, it will be filled at Cottage Country Log Cabin in West Guilford.

Minden Lanes

Lower Level of Westside Jug City
Minden 286-1476 Scott & Michelle Moore

**SEASON'S GREETINGS!
DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!**

Availability for our Youth League Ages 5 - 18

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Wed. nites 6 - 10 p.m. Fri. nites 6 - 11

Sat. 2 p.m. - 10 p.m. Sun. Noon - 5 p.m.

Phone for avail times and dals as we do large groups, birthday parties and tournaments



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May your home be filled with the sights and sounds of Christmas and may your new year be a joyous one!

457-1160 Haliburton

Holiday Eating Tips – For Those Who Are Tired Of Being Told To Eat Properly Over The Holidays...

Don't you just hate this time of year? Not for its crass commercialism and forced frivolity, but because it's the season when the food police come out with their wagging fingers and annual tips on how to get through the holidays without gaining ten pounds. You can't pick up a magazine without finding a list of holiday do's and don'ts

Eliminate second helpings, high calorie sauces and cookies made with butter, they say. Fill up on vegetable sticks, they say. Good grief. Is your favourite childhood memory of Christmas a carrot stick?

I didn't think so. A carrot was something you left for Rudolph.

Here is an alternative list of tips for holiday eating. I assure you, if you follow them, you'll be fat and happy. So what if you don't make it to New Year's? Your pants don't fit anymore, anyway.

About those carrot sticks. Avoid them. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately. Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.

Drink as much eggnog as you can. And quickly. Like fine single-malt Scotch, it's rare. In fact, it's even rarer than single-malt Scotch. You

can't find it any other time of year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an eggnogaholic or something. It's a treat. Enjoy it. Have one for me. Have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas!

If something comes with gravy, use it. That's the whole point of gravy. Gravy does not stand-alone. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with Gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.

As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.

Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello? Remember college?

Under no circumstances should you exercise between Christmas and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table carrying a ten-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.

If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. You can't leave them behind. You're not going to see them again.

Same for pies. Apple. Pumpkin. Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or, if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert? Labour Day?

Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards, mate.

And one final tip if you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Reread the tips. Start over. But hurry! Cookie-less January is just around the corner.



HO! HO! HO!
Merry Christmas
from
the gang at
The Storeroom



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**GEORGE BUSH .. when you rear-
range the letters: HE BUGS GORE**

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If you are a senior or a physically disabled adult, please call Home Support to find out what services are available to you.



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You Can Help County Get Health Centre

Would you like to see a Community Health Centre in Haliburton County? Would you like better access to a family doctor, including evening hours and weekend appointments, free physiotherapy, and other therapies? How about being able to receive quick and helpful education about your health concerns, and info on how to stay healthy? Wouldn't it be nice to know that there is help available for you and your family when you need it most including nutrition counselling, social work, family or group counselling? A Community Health Centre (CHC) will meet these health needs and more!

A proposal to have a CHC in Haliburton County has been submitted to the Ministry of Health but there has been no response yet. You can help by calling the Minister of Health and Long Term Care and letting them know you want a CHC in our area. You will have to call George Smitherman at 1-416-327-4300 or email: george_smitherman@moh.gov.on.ca. To get more info about the CHC proposed for the Haliburton Highlands please contact Beth at 457-1392 ext 249



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A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

email: foundation@hhhs.on.ca • www.hhhs.on.ca

**Merry Christmas
& Thank you**

from all the staff

Sandi McDavid RN, Patricia Wright,
Cheryl Bathe, Christine Guenette
and Jean Willoughby



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The Origin of Santa Clause

The American version of St. Nicholas, or Santa Claus originally came from the Dutch version called Sint Klaas. The Dutch settlers in New Amsterdam (New York) brought this fun and lively tradition (some even say cult) to America.

This version of Santa has given the current myth its visual form and these most curious traditions: A merry old man with red and white clothes, Eight flying reindeer, later joined by Rudolph the red nosed reindeer, a home located on or near the North Pole, the habit of filling socks or stockings with presents on the night of December 24th, also the habit of entering houses through the chimney.

The most important single source for our modern day version of Santa Claus comes from the Christmas poem 'A Visit From St. Nicholas' by Clement C. Moore. Written for his children in 1823, the family poem was later published for the general public and included what became the now famous picture of Santa Claus by Thomas Nast

Actually the old "cult" of Santa Claus incorporates many traditions: Christian and Pagan, Old Catholic, Scandinavian, Dutch, German and English

Santa brings us all together! Kids all over the world know who Santa is... And although he may be a little commercial, who can help, but love the jolly old elf?

It's the Idea of giving that reminds us; we are all on this planet together, for the long run.

So lets be kind to one another.

Christmas Thanks

Thank you for your continued patronage and
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Happy Holidays



Merry Christmas

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my customers. Have
a wonderful Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

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STRESS BUSTERS

Quick Tips To Lower That Stress Level



Avoid Crossing Your Legs

Avoid crossing your legs when sitting. Not only does this hinder proper circulation, but it also misaligns your pelvis, which can bring on back pain if you're in this position too long. Also, make it a point to get up from a sitting position, if possible, every half hour or so for a least a minute. It's just too stressful on your body to sit for long periods of time.

Looking Good

Advice from the Beauty Expert

By Patricia Wright, Esthetician and Beauty Therapist
from the Magic Touch Salon

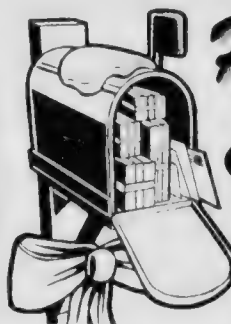
Q. My father, who is 76 years old, has a large concentration of blackheads on the outside edge of his eyes and on the upper cheeks. Why does he have them, he is too old to have acne. He is very careful to clean his skin well.

A. What your father is experiencing is "FAVRI: RACOUCHOT" (senile solar comedones) in simple terms; your father has sun-damaged skin. In older clients, often men, you will find a concentration of blackheads round the eye area. While the development of these blackheads is similar to acne-related blackheads, these lesions are caused by excessive long-term sun exposure.

There is no easy treatment for this condition: the blackheads must be removed manually by extraction. Please do not try to remove them at home, as sun damage skin is extremely sensitive and bruises easily and can become red and irritated for days, not to mention the possibility of infection.

You have one of two choices, first just ignore it, as it is not a medical problem, or second, take him to an Esthetician for a cleansing facial and have them removed by a professional.

If you have any questions, please forward them to "Ask a Beauty Expert", care of the Highlands Communicator.



Happy Holidays!

from your friends at the



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Sir Sam's Ski Challenge Offers Cash Prizes Including \$1,000 Cash

You don't have to be a fantastic champion skier to win a prize at the annual Sir Sam's Ski Challenge. All you have to do is participate and you could win up to \$1,000.

Here's how it works ... Every year, Sir Sam's hold a series of races - one every Sunday and a final race on the first Saturday in March. The first race will be held on January 11th 2004.

There is no fee to enter the races and cash prizes and medals are awarded every weekend. \$100 is up for grabs every race just by participating. All participant's names are placed in a draw and following that day's competition, a winning name is drawn. Your name is placed in the draw whether you placed in the race or not.

What about the \$1,000 you ask? ... Every time you participate in a race, your name is registered. After the final race in March, one name will be drawn from all the names registered, and that lucky person wins \$1,000.

Remember, the more races you participate in the more your name is entered. To make it fair, you must participate in at least three races and the final race to qualify.

"It's a fun thing we do," says J.D. Bishop of Sir Sam's Ski Hill. "It's a race for everyone of any age and ability. There are lots of prizes and it's just a fun day for skiers and snowboarders. Both can enter the race," J.D. adds.

"You don't have to be a professional skier to enjoy the challenge," says J.D. "It's all meant for fun." The categories are broken up by age (age 0 - 12, age 13 - 18 and ages 18+), and there is a women's and men's competition within each category.

So come on out for some friendly racing fun. Whether you compete with the others or just to better your own time, it's all for fun! And remember the winner of the \$1,000 cash prize could just as well be the person who never won a race!

Snowmobile Season Is Here

Every time it snows the conditions only improve for our snowmobiling season, and Andy Chevedukas is hoping for a great year just like last year.

Andy is the president of the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association. This group has been active in preparing the trails for this year's season. One of the biggest projects has been the construction of a new bridge - the Beach River Bridge north of Carnarvon. Andy says that due to late issuance of permits, the project did not get done as soon as they wanted. "There are actually guys in the water now with hip waders installing cribs and preparing to install the bridge," says Andy. "We're hoping it will be completed by around Christmas."

As with anything of this magnitude, volunteers are very much in need. "The HCSA has numerous dedicated volunteers," says Andy, "with the majority being long term members, they are getting tired and burnt out. We need new blood. We would appreciate any assistance."

Andy reminds people of the importance of snowmobiling in the area. "It's the backbone for winter tourism. Businesses rely on snowmobiling. Every dollar spent sooner or later just about every business benefits from it. There is a lot of money that pours into the area in a good snowmobiling season."

He advises snowmobilers to be cautious before attempting travel on the lakes. "We've had an added problem this year with lake water levels being higher than normal. This means faster current and faster water. It will take longer for the lakes to freeze properly. Also," he adds, "with the early snow fall, we didn't have the frost in the ground which will mean more mud. Frost is needed in the ground before the groomer can go out or it will sink."

Be sure to get your permits this year and join this wonderful club that hosts 580 km of beautiful groomed trails. The cost is \$160 for a seasonal permit per machine. You must be fully insured, licensed and have your ownership with you on the trails.

Youths 12 - 15 may obtain a special licence to operate a snowmobile. Courses are offered to the youths through the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association. The next course is scheduled for December 27th. There will be more after that date. Contact the clubhouse for further information about these courses or any other questions you may have. You can call 457-4263. The clubhouse is located on Indus-

Gift Certificates
available for you loved ones.

Seasons Greetings & Best Wishes



from the staff at
Danielle's
Hair Salon & Day Spa

Don't Forget The Batteries

As you shop for family and friends this holiday season, don't forget that many of this year's hottest gifts are battery-powered. Don't forget to stuff battery-operated toys with batteries before you wrap them.



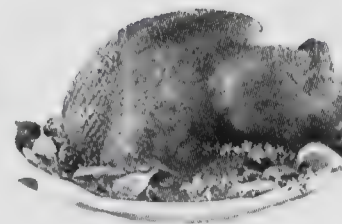
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Dining and Entertainment



COOKING YOUR WHOLE TURKEY

Preheat oven to 325°F (160°C).

If stuffing turkey, do so now. An easy way of removing stuffing is to insert a generous amount of cheesecloth into the cavity of the turkey leaving excess at the opening. Spoon stuffing lightly into turkey instead of packing because stuffing expands while cooking.

(Allow ½ a cup (125 ml) of stuffing per pound (500 g) of turkey. *(After roasting simply pull the cheesecloth out of the turkey in one quick action with no waste or mess.)*

Place turkey breast up on a rack in a shallow roasting pan. Insert meat thermometer in the deepest part of the inner

325° °F(160°C) Weight	Roasting Times	
	Stuffed	Unstuffed
6 - 8 lbs (3.0 - 3.5 kg)	3 - 3 ¼ hours	2 ½ - 2 ¾ hours
8 - 10 lbs (3.5 - 4.5 kg)	3 ¼ - 3 ½ hours	2 ¾ - 3 hours
10 - 12 lbs (4.5 - 5.5 kg)	3 ½ - 3 ¾ hours	3 - 3 ¼ hours
12 - 16 lbs (5.5 - 7.0 kg)	3 ¾ - 4 hours	3 ¼ - 3 ½ hours
16 - 22 lbs (7.0 - 10.0 kg)	4 - 4 ½ hours	3 ½ - 4 hours

thigh, but not touching the bone.

Roast uncovered, or loosely covered with foil. If you choose to baste your turkey, limit the number of times you open and close your oven (once an hour is sufficient).

Turkey is cooked when the meat thermometer reads 170°F (77°C) for an unstuffed turkey or 180°F (82°C) for a stuffed turkey and the juices run clear.

See chart for approximate cooking times.

Remove turkey when cooking is completed and let stand 15 to 20 minutes to allow the juices to set.

NOTE: Cooking times may vary depending on: the temperature of the bird going into the oven, the accuracy of the oven's thermostat, how many times the oven door is opened during roasting, the size of the turkey in relation to the size of the oven.

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From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Breakfast items
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Take Out
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Now What Do I Do With It? The Turkey That is...

After cooking, keep the turkey hot, above 140°F(60°C) or refrigerate below 40°F(4°C). DO NOT LEAVE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE FOR MORE THAN 2 HOURS!!!

Storing Cooked Turkey:

Cooked turkey can be stored in a covered container, plastic bag or aluminium foil for up to 4 days in the refrigerator or up to 3 months in the freezer.

What To Do With Any Leftovers

For the best quality of turkey leftovers, wrap well in small packages, or put in shallow plastic containers. Be sure to use refrigerated cooked turkey within three to four days. Turkey can be frozen covered in broth in a covered container for up to 6 months. Or freeze turkey slices or pieces in airtight packages and use within 4 months.

Turkey Assistance:

For over 20 years, the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line has delivered hands-on holiday help to turkey cooks (and first-time turkey makers) everywhere.

If you have any questions what-so-ever about turkeys – how to cook, carve, prepare, store, thaw – whatever, you can call 1-800-butterball.

They also have a great website www.butterball.com which offers free how-to video assistance in preparing, cooking and stuffing a turkey.

The regular hours of the turkey hotline on Christmas Eve and Christmas day are 6 a.m. – 3 p.m. From December 16 to the 27 (excluding Christmas eve & day) the Turkey Talk-Line is manned from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Automated assistance is available after hours. If you are stuck – give them a call!!!



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from Dan Chumbley

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The Loonie Buffet

All You Can Eat For A Buck?... It's True!!

All you can eat for a buck!! Sounds too good to be true, but in this case, it is true – and it's also for a good cause.

The South Algonquin Cookhouse Restaurant in Harcourt will be spreading some Christmas joy on Sunday December 14th as they will be holding a Christmas buffet for only \$1 per person. Yes, you read it right! For only one dollar, you can come enjoy the buffet featuring ham, ribs, roast beef, meatballs, roast potatoes, veggies, cheese trays, fresh fruit trays, salads, desserts, tea, coffee, and more.

All this for only one dollar ... or if you're feeling generous, a donation in the amount of your choice. All money raised will be donated to local charities. As owner John Bower says, "I really care about this area. I thought this would be a good idea because not everyone can afford to come out for a nice buffet, but for only a dollar, they could come out and enjoy a great meal, and at the same time the buffet can be used as a fundraiser. All money that comes in from the event will be donated to local charities such as the Santa Fund, the Legion, and some others, but all local to our area."

What a great way to spend a Sunday just before Christmas, and help out a great fundraiser. The buffet will run from 2pm till 6pm and all are welcome. The South Algonquin Cookhouse is located in the village of Harcourt and can be reached by calling 448-2322.

E'RE LIFTING OUR VOICES

To our friends and neighbours, we'd
like to say "Thank You"
for all your support this year!

**Merry Christmas
and a very happy 2004**



See You
At The
Next
Open
Stage
Dec. 20!!

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7 DAYS A WEEK
6 A.M. - 7 P.M.
ALL DAY BREAKFAST!

What's The Holiday Without Egg Nog?

Christmas isn't Christmas to some people without eggnog! That's right. An old tradition in this country and even older in other countries throughout the world such as England—where good old eggnog was invented in the 17th century. You see, "nog" is the English word for ale (which can be any type of liquor—from rum to bourbon or the liqueur of your choice).

Originally, eggnog was used for medicinal purposes—served to those "serfs" who were under the weather. It wasn't long before people realized it tasted too good to be medicine, and it became a holiday treat. It has traveled from England to Puerto Rico where it is called coquito and mixed with rum. To Mexico where it is called rompo and mixed with Mexican cinnamon and grain alcohol. To Peru where it is called biblia con pisco and mixed with pisco—a Peruvian pomace brandy. And to Germany where it is called Biersuppe (egg soup with beer) and where it is a hot dessert.

Recipes

Eggnog is simply milk, eggs and some condiments. You can buy eggnog or you can make it using pasteurized eggs or egg substitutes (I say buy it; if it isn't cooked to 160 degrees you may get Salmonella poisoning). Once done, you can add flavouring for a variety of drinks—like mocha or coconut—and the liquor of your choice.

For those of you who are game, a basic eggnog recipe is:

Ingredients:

6 Egg - 1/4 cup Sugar - 1/4 tsp Salt (optional) -
1 qt Milk, divided - 1 tsp Vanilla

Mixing instructions:

In large saucepan, beat together eggs, sugar and salt, if desired. Stir in 2 cups of the milk. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly, until mixture is thick enough to coat a metal spoon and reaches 160 degrees F. Remove from heat. Stir in remaining 2 cups milk and vanilla. Cover and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled, several hours or overnight. Just before serving, pour into bowl or pitcher. Garnish or add stir-ins, if desired. Choose 1 or several of: Chocolate curls, cinnamon sticks, extracts of flavourings, flavoured brandy or liqueur, fruit juice or nectar, ground nutmeg, maraschino cherries, orange slices, peppermint sticks or candy canes, plain brandy, rum or whiskey, sherbet or ice-cream, whipping cream, whipped. Serve immediately.

For those of you who are watching your diet, here is a recipe for *eggless* eggnog:

1 quart Low-fat vanilla frozen yogurt or ice cream
1/2 cup Evaporated skim milk
1/4 cup Dark rum or liquor of choice

1/2 teaspoon nutmeg (grated and sprinkled on top)

Mix together first three ingredients in a pitcher and chill covered for 30 minutes. Sprinkle with nutmeg just before serving.

And low cholesterol eggnog:

1/2 cup Egg substitute - 2 teaspoons Sugar
1 can (13 oz) Evaporated skim milk - 3/4 cup Skim milk
1 teaspoon Vanilla - 1 teaspoon Rum flavouring
Ground nutmeg

Whip egg substitute and sugar together and combine with two types of milk and flavouring. Mix well. Chill overnight. Dust with nutmeg before serving. Only 96 calories for 1/2 cup and 4 mg. of cholesterol (makes 3 cups).

Dorset Music Night

If you are a musician, or just enjoy listening to some good local musical talent, why not head up to the Dorset Recreation Center January 10th for the 7th annual Dinner and Music Nite.

The event begins at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. "Dinner is usually chilly & biscuits or stew, with homemade pie for dessert," explains organizer Melissa Alfano.

Lasts year they had a great turnout, with local musicians playing everything from guitar, piano, sax, to violin and accordion.

"Any style goes," says Melissa. "The beauty of the evening is that you never know what to expect," she adds.

All musicians are welcome. The event runs from 6 - 9 p.m. and costs \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for kids. So, head on up to Dorset for a good listen or to show off your musical talents. For further information, contact Melissa at (705) 766-9968, or Joe Alfano at 766-0076. Reservations are required.

Lounge Café Open Stage

Just a reminder to all you musicians and music lovers, open stage is held every first and third Saturday of every month at the Lounge Café/The Hair Lounge in Carnarvon. Bring your instruments or just come and listen!! All ages and styles are welcome! Poets and Storytellers are welcome too!! You will be amazed at the talent that shows up!! It starts at 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. For more information, please call 489-3311.

Holiday Party Egnog Bar "How-To"

Want to do something fun and different at your holiday party? Create a make-it-yourself "eggnog" bar as part of the festivities. How? Easy enough...

Get a lot of eggnog.

Put it in a big punch bowl with a big ladle (refill when necessary).

Provide festive holiday cups, napkins and stirrers.

Provide a choice of liqueurs: banana, coconut, peach, etc.

Provide a choice of liquor: rum, brandy, whiskey, etc.

Provide eggnog ice cream or yogurt to add to the drink...and, voila, you have a great looking eggnog buffet.

Provide decorative condiments in pretty bowls, marked appropriately: nutmeg, cinnamon, cocoa powder and others to sprinkle on top.

Decorate the table with holiday colours, Christmas decorations, leftover ornaments- whatever is available. Your guests will love making their own concoctions and you'll be ever thankful that it was one less thing you had to serve!



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DJ Cindy - Free Admission
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Cheer with others:
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Toronto Maple
Leaf game

Please don't drink & drive!

*Season's Greetings from
all of us at Elephant Lake Lodge!!*

Why is the alphabet in that order? ... Is
it because of that song??

Have a HUGE SLICE of Christmas Joy!

Hope your Christmas is served up
with all the toppings!

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*Great Food
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Season's Greetings to All
w/ Wishes for a
Happy New Year!

Open 24 Hours a Day
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On Hwy 503
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Our Christmas Wish:

For every girl and every boy
The perfect gift and lots of joy.
For everyone who's been good this year,
A holiday that's full of cheer.

Season's greetings!

**Gopher's Cafe
Haliburton**

Robbie Burns Night

Don't Forget - January 24

Robbie Burns night at the Wilberforce Legion.

For details call 448-2221.



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Seasons Greetings Have a Wonderful New Year

Why not have an outdoor Winter Party?



- Corn Roasts
- Pig Roasts
- Special Events
- Parties

Year
Round!!

Party Size Grill & Spit

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Great Food
Great Service

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Plenty of SLED Parkin' Out Back!!

Think Homemade,
Think BIG Honkin' Entrees.
Think Smells Great,
Looks Beautiful and
Tastes Fabulous....
Now say Oohh and Awhh!!

In Defence of the Fruitcake

According to information gleaned from the web, the majority of Americans feel that fruitcake is best used as a doorstop, as a gift for someone else or as land fill (the opinion of the majority). However, we are coming to the defence of fruitcake due to its rich history (and rich ingredients), it's long life and the fact that because of fruitcake (more sustenance in one cake than any one food group), we have won wars and conquered enemies!

It all started with the Romans - sustaining their army in faraway lands, and just like Rome, a good fruitcake is not built in a day nor does it last just a day. From Rome, fruitcake took Europe by storm. In fact, it was law that the serving of fruitcake (also known as plum cake) was limited to certain holidays and only the most important milestones (e.g., weddings and funerals). It was on her birthday one year that Queen Victoria started the tradition of putting it aside to practice "restraint, moderation and good taste," eating it a year later. Go figure.

On the other hand, unlike the Queen, many people are not so keen on the eating part. However, a Christmas without fruitcake is, well, just not right. So, when your well-meaning friends send you a fruitcake, try these ideas to show them off.

Centerpiece

Using a giant fruitcake that you made or bought (and no matter whether it's rectangular or round), put it centre table on a bed of holly and evergreen branches with pinecones scattered as confetti.

Votive Candle Holder

Take the fruitcake out of its container and make holes big enough to hold votive candles. Or just shove them in-who's to know?!

Guest Towel Holder

Take two fruitcakes, lay them side by side about 4" apart and insert popsicle sticks to make it a holder for your guest towels.

Knife Rest

Cut the fruitcake into 2x1" rectangles and put one at each place as a knife rest...your guests will marvel at your creativity.

Place Card Holder

Again, cut the fruitcake into rectangles and make a small groove in the top to hold a business card size placecard. Placecards with holly and mistletoe are easily found at your local stationery store.

Holiday Door Knocker

You may think this is difficult but it's not. Super glue a hinge to the bottom of the fruitcake near the top, use removable double stick tape to attach the back of the hinge to your door.

Punch Hole Ring

Take your fruitcake, freeze it in a block of ice and throw it in your punch bowl for an unusual yet attractive garnish.

So, don't worry if your husband's boss brings a fruitcake to your Christmas Open House this year. Just march in the kitchen and make it into something wonderful! Imagine his surprise when he sees it on display in your guest lavatory holding a Glade refill!

Casual, island inspired menu with zing, and
Highland hospitality at it's best. OH! and licensed too!
Reservations Not Required - JUST SHOWUP!!

You'll Be Hooked!!

Join us at our "Almost" Lakefront Location
Highland (Main Drag) Street, Haliburton

455-9162



The Rathskallions Are Coming.... The Rathskallions Are Coming....!!

Mark your calendars now for the next Razzamataz Kids' Show: the Celtic Rathskallions are coming to the Northern Lights Theatre at the high school on Sunday January 18 at 2 p.m.

The Rathskallions are a professional music group who present Celtic music, step-dancing, and story-telling. Wendy Moore started the group five years ago, and they have performed hundreds of concerts and school shows. In Haliburton she will be accompanied by one of the other Rathskallions: Doug, Bryan or Arthur. You can hear samples of their music on their website at www.celticrathskallions.ca

The lively music will have your toes a-tapping, you will be introduced to unusual Celtic instruments, and you will be touched by a story about Maddie, a little girl who likes to play the tin whistle to the moon. You might even learn something

about the physics of sound when the Rathskallions put on their lab coats! They will also have CDs and a tin whistle instruction set for sale.

Razzamataz would like to thank Minden Home Hardware and Curry Motors who are sponsoring this show. Please support



these local businesses who make it possible for us to present high quality live children's entertainment at a very reasonable price.

Our new mascot Razzie the Razzamataz Orangutan will be on hand again to welcome you to the show. Thanks to Senitt Puppets for an awesome costume!

Tickets are available at the door: \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 2 and up. If you bought a ticket for Morgan's Journey before Christmas and would like to move up to a season pass for all four shows, we will subtract the cost of your previous ticket from the pass price of \$18. For more information, please call Amy at 457-4266.

The Cross Roads Café

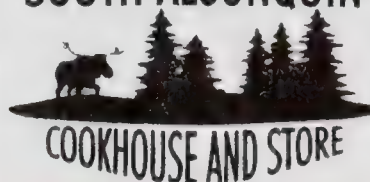
staff wishes you a festive season and thanks you for your support in our new endeavour.

Have a Joyous and Safe Holiday.

Wilberforce 705 448-3858



SOUTH ALGONQUIN



COOKHOUSE AND STORE

**Lets Have
a Party!!**

New Years Eve Buffet

Wednesday December 31
Seatings at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Featuring a Surf and Turf

SOUP & SALAD BAR includes fresh bread
FRUIT TRAY - CHEESE TRAY - VEGGIE TRAY with dip
HIP OF BEEF - cut to your taste
BBQ SPARE RIBS - ROTISSERIE 1/4 CHICKEN
DECORATED SALMON
BUTTERFLY SHRIMP - SEAFOOD SALAD
ROAST POTATOES & BABY CARROTS
ASSORTMENT OF MOUTH WATERING DESSERTS
includes non-alcoholic beverages

All for \$27.95

Add a 6 oz Lobster Tail

\$12.00 each

Children 12 and under, 1/2 price

Make Your Reservations Today!!

**Get a party together
and join us!!**

Seating is Limited ... We are Smoke Free
Reservations taken on 1st come 1st serve basis
Join us in the Fun and the Delicious Food.
Reservations taken for any size party.

We are located in the Heart of Harcourt.



8:00 Seating
invited to stay
for CD Dancing
Until 1 p.m

Reservations 705 448-2322

Highlands Summer Festival Audition Call For The Sound of Music

The hills of the Highlands will be alive with the sound of music next summer. The search has begun for people to help make that music happen.

The call for actors has been issued by the Highlands Summer Festival for the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical The Sound of Music, which will be part of the Festival's program this coming summer.

"Auditions are scheduled for January," music director of the production Melissa Stephens said, "but with the high degree of interest and the preparation some people will want to put into it, we thought we would issue the audition information now rather than wait for the new year."

The casting call is for over 20 singing roles and five non-singing parts. The size of the cast will vary with the number in the nun's chorus.

"We will be holding the auditions over two weekends," dramatic director David Mills said. "The call for the adults will be on Saturday and Sunday January 17 and 18 with the children auditions scheduled for the following weekend." There are six children's roles (the role of Liesel, the oldest of the seven youngsters, will be auditioned with the adults) including: Fredrich age 14; Louisa 13, Kurt 10, Brigitta 9, Marta 7, and Gretl, the youngest.

The package explains the audition process, offers a brief character profile and outlines the commitment required by anyone taking part in the production. Musical rehearsals are scheduled to start in early February with the dramatic rehears-

als beginning in early April.

Rehearsal packages are available from the Clarica Office in Haliburton and The Times office in Minden or on the Festival website at www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca

Auditions for the Festival's dramatic presentations, Thriller of the Year and The Perfect Rhyme, will be held in early March.

What To Do???

What to do for New Years Eve? There's lots to do and lots going on. Below are just a few suggestions - or at least the ones we know of... We're sure there are lots of other great parties taking place... so keep an eye out and have fun. Remember to be safe and

Don't Drink and Drive - It's not worth it!!!

New Years Eve at the Minden Legion

If you are looking for an evening out in Minden, why not join everyone at the Minden Legion for their annual New Year's Eve Party.

Come out and enjoy DJ tunes from the 50's, 60's and some country. You will also be treated to a cold midnight buffet.

The cost of the tickets is \$10 per person. For more information, or to purchase your tickets, contact the Minden Legion at 286-4541

Don't forget to drop in on December 20 for the annual Presidents Levee - Experience the opportunity, as tradition will have it to meet and greet the president over coffee and snacks from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Once into the New Year, why not pop by the Minden Legion on January 4 for their delicious Big, Big Brunch

Top off the holiday season with a full-cooked breakfast and lunch goodies - includes dessert at \$10.00 p.p. from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For more information call 286-4541 Royal Canadian Legion, Br 636, Minden.

New Year's Eve at the Haliburton Legion

Last New Year's Eve was a great success and this year promises to be even better.

Come out and ring in the New Year with "Forgotten Memories" (those of you who have heard this band before know how good they are)

The evening's festivities include lots of door prizes, spot dances, party favours and a hot and cold buffet -with Sue's specials!!

Tickets are on sale at the branch and are \$40.00 per couple and \$25.00 single.

For all of you out there that have a cash calendar the bonus draw for a \$1,000.00 will be held on New Year's Eve. This could be your lucky night. Good Luck!!

For more information on the New Year's Eve bash, please call 457-2571.

New Year Eve at Elephant Lake Lodge

If you are looking for a good time New Year's Eve, filled with laughter, dancing and some great snacks, you might consider joining the gang at Elephant Lake Lodge. This year the Lodge is throwing a party to remember and everyone is welcome to attend. Admission is free. There is also accommodation available - although you may want to book that early as reservations are already starting to pour in.

For more information contact Elephant Lake Lodge at 448-2861.



MacD's MEATS
447-1127

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Kirk MacDuff... prop.

**Specializing in Custom Cutting
BLACK ANGUS
Eastern Beef**

For The Holidays
Fresh Turkeys - \$24.95
Fresh Hams, Ducks & Cornish Hens
Meat Trays & Cheese Trays
See us For Your Holiday Entertaining Treats
Freezer Orders
Gift Certificates Available

Store Hours:
Tues - Sun
9 - 6

New Year's Eve at Wanakita in Donald

There is an exciting New Year's Celebration planned for all that includes a variety of activities all at the beautiful Camp Wanakita, located near Donald. The New Years Family Camp offers a great holiday package from December 29 to January 1st.

Included in the fun is campfires, outdoor games, cook outs, hot chocolate by the fire, great food, tobogganing, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, broomball, skating, kid's events, crafts, and of course the New Year's Eve Celebrations.

The New Years Eve dinner consists of a huge banquet followed by an evening of planned fun activities.

If you have any other questions or for pricing etc...., please do not hesitate to call the camp at 457-2132 or 1-800-387-5081

New Years Eve In West Guilford

A delicious hot & cold buffet, lots of music and a hall full of great people await all who attend this year's New Year's Eve celebrations at the West Guilford Hall.

This annual event has always been a huge success with only good times and good memories. "We normally get about 75 to 100 people out for this event, and it's always been a good party - lots of fun," says organizer Bill Marshall.

The cost is \$30 per couple. If you require more information, or to get your tickets, you can call Bill at 754-1457, or stop in at the West Guilford Shopping Centre.

New Years Eve in Wilberforce

There's another great New Years Eve party planned for the Wilberforce Legion. The cost to attend is \$25 per couple or \$12.50 for a single. Dale Allison will be the D.J.

The fun gets underway at 9 p.m. until 2 a.m. A buffet will be served at 11 p.m..

Tickets are available at the Wilberforce Legion or you can call 448-2221 for more information.

New Years Eve in Harcourt

Live entertainment and a great time is what awaits you at the Harcourt Community Hall this New Years Eve. Dance to the sounds of Classic Country. Hot Roast Beef Buffet will be served.

The cost is \$30 per couple. Get your tickets at the door, or call Ross Covert at 448-3196.

New Yers Eve At The Moose

Take a trip back into the 70's and get ready to boogie. The Moose Bar & Grill located at the Wigamog Inn is holding a groovy 70's New Years Eve bash and everyone is welcome to attend.

There is a "far out" finger food buffet at 9 p.m., great door prizes including a 2 night getaway at your choice of one of their 4 Resorts Muskoka properties, and there is also a costume prize for the best his and her funky threads.

Spinning the blast from the past hits is none other than D.J. Paul Wilson.

Tickets are \$15 per person and you can get them at the Wigamog Inn or call 457-2000 to reserve yours today.

New Years Eve at the Cookhouse

If feasting is your thing, check the ad on page 31 - and head to Harcourt for the South Algonquin Cookhouse Surf and Turf Buffet, follwed by a big party to bring in the new year!!



\$3.00 LUNCH DEAL EVERYDAY

Sandwich
(Hot or cold)
PLUS
Soup
or Wedges
or Salad
or Brownies
& a **Pop**

for only \$3.00

Merry Christmas!

Easton's 286-6032

valu-mart

Minden

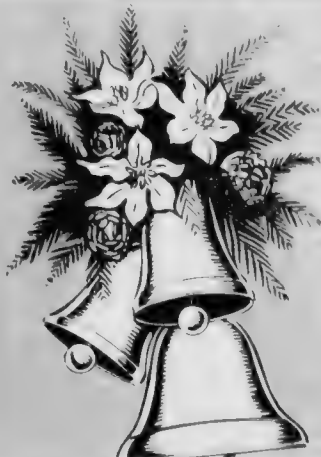


MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE WRAPPED IN WARMTH

Wishing you happiness this season and in the coming year.
Your patronage means a lot to us.
And we not only value you as a customer but also as a friend.

The Owners & Staff at **Pasta Ta Pizza**
Haliburton • 457-3424

What was the best thing before sliced bread??



Holiday Greetings

We're happy to have this opportunity to express our gratitude and offer our very best wishes to all of you at this joyous time of year.

Thank you!

Steve, Jane & Staff
Haliburton SUBWAY

Wilberforce Skating Club Bigger Than Ever

This year is a grand year for the Wilberforce Skating Club. With their biggest enrollment yet, the club is a bussel of activity every Tuesday and Friday evenings. The club is being led by President Linda Toews and instructors, Andrea Donaldson, Chrystal Hannah and Robin Graham.

This year is possible through the kindness of many businesses and individuals that have helped make it possible for so many youngsters to participate in this great winter sport. The list is long and the club has thanked those individuals in the boxed display below right.

Pictured are the members of this large and active club; (right - juniors): Shenes Alden, Kendra Anderson, Rebecca Anderson, Christina Berning, Bethalin Callfas, Lloyd Callfas, Alana Coty, Brittney Graham, Ryan Hannah, Vanessa Kennedy, Kirstyn Mulley, Robert Mulley, Eryn Solmes, Kesha Reid, Mason Ross, Braden Ross, Dakota Ross, Kendra Ross, Samantha Vanier, Beth Waugh, Jason Wood, Jennifer Woolacot, Shelby Hunter, Alexderia Hebb, Katelyn Maloney (Absent from photo - Kirsty Cook, Ryan Grimes, Katelyn Hutt and Barbara Baker)



Above are the senior group ages 8 - 18 years of age - Ashley Alden, Lauren Graham, Caitlan Hunter, Kristyn Hutt, Leigha Johnston, Bobbie-Jo Lewis, Amber Loney, Katie Montgomery, Kendall Montgomery, Michele Neuman, Kayla Scott, Stephanie Lewis and Ashley Sharpe. (Absent from photo is Candice Grimes, Crystal Hogan, Kimberly Toews, Kimberly Young, Shyan Guy and Natasha Robinson.



Pictured above is Santa with Andrea Donalson (right) and Linda Toews (front right) and Crystal Hannah. Absent is instructor Robin Graham.



The Wilberforce Figure Skating Club

would like to thank all mom's and dad's for helmet and skate exchange. It has been a great year for skaters.

We would also like to thank Family Services of Haliburton County for their sponsors and also our friends and neighbours for their 'sponsor a child' donation: Bessie & Gerald Shackleton, Kenwood Forest Product, David R. Burton, Montage Real Estate, Hilda Clark, Wayne & Beryl Rutter, Bostonian Motel, Max Walsh, B.T's Capentry, Brian Montgomery, Morley Leonard, The Pump Shop, Kemcroft Enterprises Ltd., Donna Burroughs, Linda Toews, Monmouth Seniors, South Algonquin Cookhouse, and Tammy Donaldson.

And also thanks to our Highland's East Fire Department, Kinmount and District Lions Club, Wilberforce Legion, and the Monmouth Seniors, for additional donations.

We would also like to thank the Highlands East Township Office for the ice time, and also Schwandt Lumber, Bev Harty and Jack Bartholomew for helping us get started with our summer raffle. Winners were Lynn Waugh, Ruby Alden and Elsie Lewis.

I, the President of Figure Skating, Linda Toews, am pleased with this year's figure skating club and all our skaters, and last, but not least, our teachers, Andrea Donaldson, Crystal Hannah and Robin Graham..



Hope to see you all at our Carnival - Feb. 29, 2004 from 2 - 4 p.m.

Research Continuing in Gooderham and Area

Gooderham and area is fortunate to have two fourth-year Trent University students from Geography 470 (Prof. Alan Brunger) doing research for the Gooderham & Area history Project for the 2003 - 2004 academic year. Each student will contribute approximately 120 hours to the project (including travel time from/to Peterborough).

Trevor Bremner will be doing a Registry Office search and will record the names of the original owner/owners of the original 100-acre lots, then concentrate on the hamlet of Gooderham for more detailed work. He will also research the lumbering industry and look at other reasons why people settled here. He looks forward to meeting and interviewing residents who have knowledge of the area.

Matt Drechsler will be researching the abandoned communities, e.g., Ursa, Minnicock Lake Settlement, Madill Settlement, Contau Lake Road Settlement and the Trooper Lake Settlement, and attempting to determine why they existed and why they are now abandoned. He will be doing searches at the Registry Office and in Municipal records, and looks forward to meeting and interviewing residents who have knowledge of the area.

If you have information on any of these settlements, please call Elva Bates at 447-2977.

Elva also has a copy of the reports produced by Jessie Wilkes in the 2001/2002 Academic Year and that of Shawn Brown produced in the 2002/2003 Academic Year if you wish to borrow them. Shawn's report includes two maps showing ownership in 1891 and in 1921.

Dallyn Pickens has collected a number of Family Trees and these have been put on an Electronic Data Base. They include information about the following families: Hope/Pickens, King, Cully, Savinac, Findall, Prout, Hunter, Switzer, White, Curry, Barr, Dovell, Flood, Coukell and Leveck. If you would like to have your Family Tree included in the Gooderham and Area Community History Project, please contact me.

"The list of burials in Pioneer Cemetery is growing thanks to Gail Leach-Wunker, secretary of the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group, the Late Arnold Hunter, the Late Gordon Barr, Dallyn Pickens, Marjorie Billings, Florence Taylor and the Internet. If you have ancestors buried there, please let us know," says Elva.

This is only part of the work that has been done to date and research continues.

SNOOZE ALARMS: When you rearrange the letters: ALAS NO MORE Z'S

DREW'S SNOWPLOWING

Small Roads, Parking Lots, Driveways

448-1952 Cell: 334-0862

Andrew Heard

**Serving Wilberforce &
Surrounding Area**



MOTHER IN LAW: When you rearrange the letters: WOMAN HITLER

HILARY'S TRIM 'N FLOOR

a div of 1559651 Ontario Ltd

**Wishing Everyone A
Fantastic Holiday Season!**

Robert, Hilary and Karl

448-3394

**We will be closed
from Dec. 24th till Jan. 5th**



Retail outlet located off Hwy 648 on Planing Mill Rd. in Wilberforce

Season's Greetings!
from

DeCarlo Machine Shop Service

For all you machine shop needs!

Hydraulic Hose Crimping & Fittings

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RR#1 Tory Hill

448-2197



Christmas
Joy to you!



Homes, Cottages, Renovations,
Building Materials

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Lumber for Every Purpose

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austin@jaustinandsons.com

Wishing you a
season filled with
all the joys you can
imagine.

Thank you for your
patronage.

We look forward to
serving you in the
new year.



Santa Parades & Christmas Craft Sales



Wilberforce was full of the Christmas Spirit over the past couple weeks and it showed in both the Pathfinder Annual Craft Sale and the Annual Santa Claus Parade. As you can see by these pictures, both events were enjoyed by those who participated and attended.





Wishing you the Very Best this Holiday Season!

Lewis Electric

448-2246

Commercial Residential
Service Installation

Free Estimates Highland Grove

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Here's to fun-filled holidays,
happy family times,
good food and great friends!

Hyland Ice Supply
Wilberforce



Fishing Derby Set for January

If you like fishing then this is for you. The Legion is gearing up for its annual Pat & Phyllis Gallen Ice Fishing Derby scheduled for January 17.

This one-day tournament is open to anyone who wants to join in the fun. The cost to participate is \$10 per person and will be held on local lakes.

"This is quite a large event," says Legion President Bonnie Jessup. "Last year the Legion was packed with participants and spectators."

All the money raised from the participation fees will go back towards cash prizes for the first, second and third place winners.

If you want to participate in the tournament you must register at the legion by no later than the evening prior to the tournament (Friday, January 16). For more information, you may contact the Legion at 448-2221.

In the event there is no ice on the lakes safe enough for fishing, then there will be an alternate date scheduled for the tournament. Contact the Legion for information.

Teen Dance in Harcourt

Get ready to dance the night away at the Harcourt Community Centre December 19 for the Teen Dance. The cost is \$3 and the dance is open to youths 7 - 16 years of age. Money raised from the dance will go to the Wilberforce Minor Hockey league. The dance gets underway at 8 and goes to roughly 11 p.m.

Wilberforce Elementary School Has New Choir



Over 20 students at the Wilberforce school have been working hard and practicing their singing talents in the newly formed school choir. The choir was formed in October and is open to any student from grades 1 thru 6. There are currently 20 students in the choir now. It has been a few years since the school has had a choir and school principle Birdie Murphy says she is thrilled to have the choir. "I've always wanted to offer this, but it depended on having a staff person that could do it. Sherry Halpin has a musical background and is co-ordinating the choir this year."

The choir just recently performed at the schools Christmas Concert on December 16th with the grade 1 and 2 class. The choir is also hoping to co-ordinate with the Loop Troupe for their performance of The Wizard of OZ in the spring, and join in the music festival in Haliburton in the spring. "They are practicing and are sounding pretty good," says Birdie.

Holiday Greetings!!



Swan Custom Woodworking

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

448-3495



Happy Holidays

from
Kenwood Forest Products & Wilberforce Esso

448-1125 (Esso) • 448-3459 (Kenwood)



Season's Greetings & Best Wishes!



from the
Royal Canadian Legion
Branch 624, Wilberforce, Ont.



**Wishing Everyone
A Joyous
Holiday Season!**

**GERRY'S
ELECTRIC**

448-3871



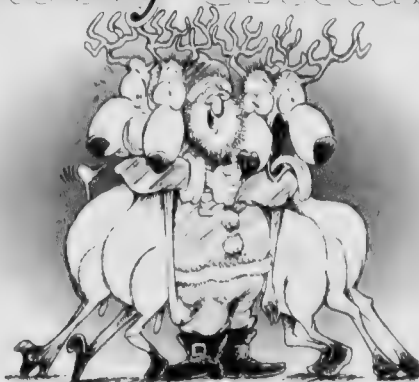
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL ...WE THANK ALL OUR READERS,
AND ADVERTISERS, WRITERS + ARTIST (DAVE)
FOR ANOTHER WONDERFUL YEAR HERE
AT THE COMMUNICATOR!!

Brett & Joanne, Publishers



From The Sketch book of David Alexander Risk

Holiday Greetings



To All Our Customers... we thank you for
your patronage in 2003.

Wishing all a Happy Holiday Season!!

Fred's Septic Service

Wilberforce - 448-3228

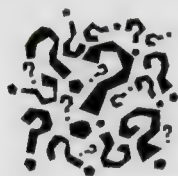
Tabacco Facts:

Maybe your New Years resolution is to quit
smoking. Maybe this will help.

While British and American tobacco companies are in the headlines often, China actually is the world's largest cigarette producer. The China National Tobacco Company holds 31% of the cigarette market. Philip Morris holds about 17%, British American Tobacco 13%, and RJR Reynolds about 6%. Almost 60% of Chinese men - that's 450 million Chinese men - puff their way through the day. Only 6% of Chinese women smoke.

Tobacco is a \$200 billion industry, producing six trillion cigarettes a year - about 1,000 cigarettes for each person on earth. Western governments nowadays are up in arms about the health hazards of smoking, as if to have only recently discovered the hazards. In the early 1940s, the Nazi government was the first to link cancer with smoking and was the first to ban smoking in public buildings. Hitler did not smoke or drink alcohol.

This is what you'll find in cigarettes: Toluene, which is commonly used as an ingredient in paint thinner; Acetone, an active ingredient in nail polish remover; Ammonia, which scientists have discovered lets you absorb more nicotine, keeping you hooked on smoking. If you smoke, you're also inhaling formaldehyde, which embalmers use to preserve dead bodies, and arsenic, benzene, cadmium, hydrogen cyanide, lead, mercury and



WE ASKED YOU!

What do you like most about the Christmas Holidays?



**Bruce Baumhour
Harcourt**

"I like the cranberry sauce!!"



**Ross Mellville
Harcourt**

"The stuff in the store behind me!! Cheers!"



**Craig McDonald
Wilberforce**

"I get two days off work!"



**Sharon Ridout
Wilberforce**

"Having friends and family around."

A DECIMAL POINT: When you rearrange the letters: I'M A DOT IN PLACE

WILBERFORCE IGA Hometown Proud!

448-2811



Merry Christmas
from
everyone at the
Wilberforce IGA



Church Events

For special church events - email your events lists to The Communicator at highlands@thecomunicator.ca or fax list with Church Name & dates of events to 448-1995.

Essonville Historic Church

Christmas Candlelight Service - December 21 - 7 p.m.
Contact Ken Noble at 448-1604. Everyone Welcome

Harcourt Community Chapel -

Christmas Carol Service - December 21 -

7 p.m. - Everyone Welcome to join in

Contact Charles Hughes - 448-2273

New Year's Eve Program - December 31 -

9 p.m. - Midnight at the chapel in Harcourt. Come one come all!!



**ALGONQUIN
ROOFING**

**Best Wishes for a Safe
and Happy Holiday Season!!**

Frank & Janette Packard

448-2734
1-866-773-ROOF

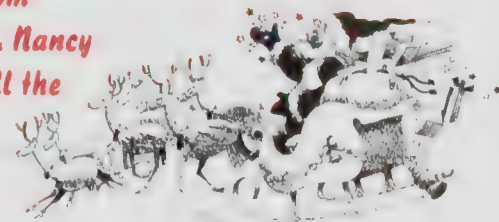
Keep your roof cleared this winter.
Avoid winter damage... Call the Professionals

Over 20 Years Experience

Serving the Haliburton Highlands

Holiday Greetings!

from
Mac & Nancy
and all the
Staff.



**Wishing Everyone A Safe & Happy
Holiday Season!**



SCHWANDT'S

HARCOURT
448-2268



GOODERHAM
447-2012

Salt Dough Ornaments:

Baker's Clay

1 cup water - 1 cup salt - 2-1/2 cups flour

Combine salt and 2 cups of flour. Mix in water, and work in additional flour if needed to make a smooth and workable dough.

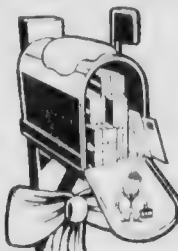
Roll out 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick. Dip cookie cutters in flour and then press into dough. Remove excess dough and put shapes onto ungreased cookie sheet. If making ornaments, use a toothpick to make holes for string to pass through.

Bake at 250 degrees for 30 minutes on each side, more for really thick items, less for thin items. Can also be dried at room temperature, time varies according to the thickness of the project- overnight-2 days is normal.

Paint and seal with a shellac or other acrylic-type sealer. To keep the salt dough well for years, do not store in a damp place. Store in boxes or well-sealed cookie tins on a bed of uncooked rice to absorb any moisture.

Zum Waldhaus
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Wishing you a
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Happy New Year!

Light Bulb Snowman Ornament

Materials:

Old light bulb - Little hat (purchase at craft store) - Scrap of fabric - White or clear glitter - White acrylic paint - Black and red acrylic paint - Buttons - Tacky glue - Needle and thread

Instructions:

Paint entire light bulb with white paint, and sprinkle with glitter before it dries

Let paint and glitter dry

Hold light bulb upside down and paint two small black circles on neck of light bulb for snowman's eyes and a smile

Use red paint to paint a heart as a nose and let dry
Wrap scrap of fabric around bottom of light bulb neck to create scarf and glue in place

Glue two buttons on round part of bulb to represent snowman's stomach

Using needle thread sting through top of small hat and tie in a knot at ends of string

Glue small hat on top of light bulb
(where normally screws into socket)



Pine Cone Ornaments

Materials:

Inch diameter Styrofoam ball
Mini pinecones - Craft wire - Hot glue - Hot glue gun - Brown acrylic paint - Sponge brush

Instructions:

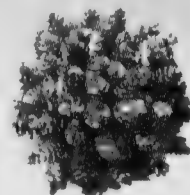
Paint Styrofoam ball with brown paint and allow to dry
Cut a 6-inch piece of wire and bend in half to create hanger
Slide two ends into top of round plastic foam ball and hot glue in place

Begin gluing pinecones in a row around center of Styrofoam ball

Glue another row of pinecones above the first row you just completed

Continue moving upward until the ball is covered with pinecones

Continue procedure on other side of Styrofoam ball until entire ball is covered



Season's Greetings

from Stephen & Diane Huntley





Sock Snowmen

Supplies:

Adult sock, Baby sock, Pipe cleaners, Buttons, Ribbon, Small puff balls, Stuffing, Scissors, Permanent marker, Needle and thread, Hot glue gun
(have mom or dad help you with the scissors and hot glue gun!)

Instructions:

Stuff foot portion of adult sock

Cut off part from heel up

Knot or sew open end of sock so that it is secure and stuffing won't come out

Pull baby sock over open end-this can be left as is, or end may be cut and ribbon tied to it for hanging

Tie ribbon around stuffed sock to separate into head and body

Hot glue buttons down front of snowman

Hot glue puffs on sides of head by baby sock

Place pipe cleaner from one puff to the other

Cut small orange pipe cleaner and place as nose

Use marker for eyes and mouth

Candy Tree:

Green chenille stem - Chocolate candy (Reese's Cup, Dove mini bar, etc.) - Pencil, optional - Yellow construction paper, optional - Scissors, optional - Glue, optional

Instructions

Wind the chenille stem around a pencil or your finger. Bend one end down and press firmly into chocolate candy. Position chenille stem to stand upright. Spread "branches" if desired. Optional: Cut out a little star out of construction paper and glue to the top of the tree.



Christmas Mouse

1 piece of stiffened green felt (craft store) - 2 small black beads - 1 piece of brown felt - 1 Brazil nut in the shell

1 small red bead - 1 rubber band

Directions: Trace holly leaf on to green felt and cut out (see pattern); Trace 2 ears on to brown felt and cut out (see pattern); Pinch bottom of each ear together and glue; Cut 3" piece of rubber band; Spread glue on felt leaf and put rubber band on top with some hanging over; Glue flat side of nut to felt, covering end of rubber band tail; Glue ears to sides of nut, sticking up over top; Glue red bead to end for a nose



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Christmas in Canada:

Labrador and Newfoundland:

During Christmas week it is customary for the folks to "fish for the church". They bring their catch to be sold for the local parish. For Christmas Eve services, the children enjoy receiving little lighted candles standing in a turnip that has been specially saved from the harvest for this use.

Nova Scotia:

In Nova Scotia, during the twelve days of Christmas, small groups of *belsnicklers*, or masked mummers, appear in neighbourhoods, ringing bells, making noise, seeking candy and other treats. Their host may provide Christmas cake or a drink made from a mixture of water and thick, sweet syrup.

Costumes may include Grandma's nightgown or Dad's winter underwear. The host attempts to identify the disguised visitors. Once identified, the mummer removes his/her mask and ceases making noise. Children may be quizzed by the *belsnicklers* about their behaviour. If the children reply that they have been good, they are rewarded with candy.

In the part of Cape Breton country, settled by Scottish highlanders, the psalms are read on Christmas morning. And in other sections, people sing old songs and carols, which their ancestors brought from the Basque country and from Brittany two centuries ago.

Vancouver:

Brightly illuminated Christmas trees glow in the homes, on the lawns, and in the squares of this Western city. In the harbour, with eighty miles of water frontage, red and green lights show where ships are waiting to go to Great Britain, Australia, China, Japan, and

Some Christmas Traditions Outside of Ontario

other countries laden with fir, cedar from the forests, salmon from the sea, and grain from the prairies.

Either fresh or smoked salmon may accompany Christmas turkey. People of British heritage may serve Brussels sprouts, mincemeat pie, or trifle, and will place a decorative favour, called a Christmas cracker, at each plate. Whimsical paper hats found in the cracker are worn during dinner.

A flotilla, or parade of ships, is organized in Vancouver Harbour in the two weeks prior to Christmas. Carols ring out across the water as children's choirs on the ships echo the sound of the ringing bells. Onshore spectators view a harbour filled with ships silhouetted in lights, their mastheads decorated with Christmas trees.

In Quebec:

The end of Christmas is called *La fete du Roi* (on the 6th of January). For this you make a cake, which has a bean inside it. The person who gets the bean is the king (or queen).

The spiritual heart of Christmas for French Canadians has always been Christmas Eve when families would attend Midnight Mass, *La Messe de minuit*. French Canadians display a *creche* or Nativity scene and before leaving for Mass family members decorate the Christmas tree and place the *creche* beneath it.

Following the Mass, the family sits down for the *reveillon* or "awakening" — a huge banquet.

In modern Quebec, some French-Canadian families still wait until New Year's Day for gift giving, however, many have given in to the overwhelming commercialism of Santa Claus from the U.S.

The First Nations Groups:

French Jesuit missionaries established Christianity in native villages in the late 1600's. As a result of this heritage, gift giving, feasting, singing, dancing and drumming, games of strength are all a part of the mid-winter celebrations for the First Nations groups.

The Cree Nation:

Children of the Cree Nation visit the homes of relatives on Christmas Eve and a cloth bag is hung for each child. On Christmas morning, the children collect the bags, which have been filled with gifts and candy.

The Inuit's:

Missionaries also brought Christianity to the Inuit and today they celebrate Christmas with huge feasts that feature caribou, seal and raw fish, along with turkey. Santa Claus comes for the children and Christmas activities include harpoon throwing, whip cracking, wrestling and igloo building, along with modern day entertainment such as snowmobile racing.



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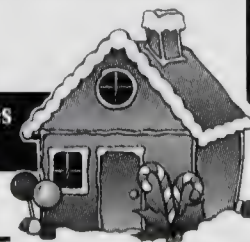
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Urban Legends

Urban Legend - Immaculate Conception

Claim: The term "Immaculate Conception" refers to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary.

Status: *False.*

Origins: The term "immaculate conception" is often used generally to denote the conception of a child by a woman who has not engaged in sexual intercourse, and specifically to the conception of Jesus by the Virgin Mary. Both usages are incorrect.

"Immaculate Conception" refers to neither the conception of Jesus nor to a virgin birth. It is a specific doctrine of Roman Catholicism decreeing that the Virgin Mary was preserved free from original sin by divine grace from the moment of her conception. Although this dogma had been argued since the twelfth century, it was not made official until 1854 by Pope Pius IX. Since then December 8 has been observed as a Roman Catholic feast in commemoration of the Immaculate Conception.

Christmas Card Oops!

Last Christmas, grandpa was feeling his age, and found that shopping for Christmas gifts had become too difficult. So he decided to send checks to everyone instead.

In each card he wrote, "Buy your own present!" and mailed them early.

He enjoyed the usual flurry of family festivities, and it was only after the holiday that he noticed that he had receiving very few cards in return. Puzzled over this, he went into his study, intending to write a couple of his relatives and ask what had happened. It was then, as he cleared off his cluttered desk that he got his answer. Under a stack of papers, he was horrified to find the gift checks, which he had forgotten to enclose with the cards.



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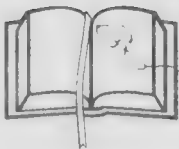
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year Say It In Any Language This Year...

English - Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
 Cree- Mitho Makosi Kesikansi
 Danish - Glædelig Jul og godt nytår
 Dutch - Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar!
 Egyptian - Colo sana wintom tiebeen
 Finnish - Hyvää Joulua or Hauskaa Joulua - Önellistä uutta vuotta
 Fijian - Me Nomuni na marau ni siga ni sucu dei na yabaki vou
 French - Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année!
 German - Froehliche Weihnachten und ein glückliches Neues Jahr!
 Greek - Kala Christougenna Ki'efthihsmenos O Kenourios Chronos
 Greenlandic - Juullimi Ukiortaassamilu Pilluarit
 Hawaiian - Mele Kalikimaka & Hauoli Makahiki Hou
 Hebrew - Mo'adim Lesimkha. Shanah
 Hindi - Shubh Naya Baras
 Hungarian - Kellemes karácsonyi ünnepeket és Boldog újévet!
 Icelandic - Gleðileg Jól og Farsælt Komandi ár!
 Iraqi - Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah
 Irish - Nollaig Shona Dhuit
 Iroquois - Ojenyunyat Sungwiyadeson homungradon nagwutut &
 Ojenyunyat osrasay
 Italian - Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo
 Japanese - Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto
 Latin - Pax hominibus bonae voluntatis
 Lebanese - Milad Saeed wa Sanaa Mubarakah
 Mandarin - Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan
 Maltese - Nixtieqlek Milied Tajjeb u Sena Tajba
 Mongolian - Zul saryn bolon shine ony mend devshuulye
 Norweigan/Nynorsk - Eg ynskjer hermed Dykk alle ein God Jul og
 Godt Nyttår
 Norweigan/Bokmål - God Jul og Godt Nyttår
 Ojibwe (Chippewa) - Niibaa' anami'egiiizhigad & Aabita Biboon
 Polish - Wesolych Swiat i Szczesliwego Nowego Roku.
 Portuguese - Boas Festas e um feliz Ano Novo
 Romanian - Craciun fericit si un An Nou fericit!
 Russian - Pozdrevlyayu s prazdnikom Rozhdestva i s Novim
 Godom
 Scots Gaelic - Nollaig chridheil agus Bliadhna mhath ur!
 Serbian - Sretan Bozic. Vesela Nova Godine
 Sicilian - Bon Natali e Prosperu Annu Novu !
 Somali - ciid wanaagsan iyo sanad cusub oo fiican.
 Slovakian - Vesele Vianoce a stastny novy rok
 Spanish - Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo
 Swahili - "Krismas Njema Na Heri Za Mwaka Mpya"
 Swedish - God Jul och Gott Nytt Ar
 Tamil - Nathar Puthu Varuda Valthukkal
 Thai - Suksan Wan Christmas lae Sawadee Pee Mai
 Turkish - Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun
 Ukrainian - Veseloho Vam Rizdva i Shchastlyvoho Novoho Roku!
 Vietnamese - Chuc Mung Giang Sinh - Chuc Mung Tan Nien
 Welsh - Nadolig LLawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda
 Yiddish - Gute Vaynakhtn un a Gut Nay Yor
 Zulu - Sinifesela Ukhisimusi Omuhle Nonyaka Omusha
 Onempumelelo

There is a very fine line between
 "hobby" and "mental illness"



Lange On The Law



Mortgage Enforcement

A mortgage is a contract between an owner of property and a lender for the loan of money. The amount of the loan is secured by registering the mortgage against the owner's land. The property owner is "the mortgagor," the lender is "the mortgagee."

When a mortgagor has defaulted in paying the mortgage, the mortgagee has two remedies against the mortgagor. The mortgagee may either sell the mortgaged property by means of power of sale proceedings and be paid out from the proceeds of sale, or the mortgagee may obtain title to the mortgaged property by means of a foreclosure action.

Before either enforcement remedy is exercised, the mortgagee will make written demand on the mortgagor to bring the mortgage into good standing by paying up the mortgage arrears and any accrued legal costs. It is important for a mortgagor to make every effort to comply with this demand. It is much easier to borrow a little money from family or friends at this early stage than to attempt a major refinancing to pay out the entire mortgage after the onslaught of enforcement proceedings.

In a power of sale proceeding, the mortgagor has between 35 and 45 days to pay the money due under the mortgage. If the sale of the mortgaged property proceeds and the mortgage debt has not been fully satisfied, the mortgagee is entitled to sue the mortgagor under the mortgage contract to recover the shortfall.

In an action for foreclosure, the mortgagee takes the land and cannot pursue the mortgagor for any shortfall under the mortgage. However, foreclosure may have some attraction to a mortgagee in a depressed real estate market where power of sale proceedings will lead to a substantial shortfall and the mortgagor has no financial means to pay it. The mortgagee may prefer to take the land and wait for a better selling market to cover the shortfall.

In the next column, I will be talking about expert evidence in court.

Happy Holidays



Hoping your holiday season is full of love and laughter. Our thanks and best wishes go out to all in the community.

Dollo's IGA Minden

Stanhope Winter fun Day

There's some great winter fun awaiting you on January 24th. Be sure to head to Stanhope for the Winter Fun Day! The fun day offers excitement in the snow events from 11am to 3pm, including dog sledding, a treasure hunt, outdoor skating, snow races, food, a craft and treasure sale, prizes and more.

To gain admission you must purchase a ribbon for \$2 at the Stanhope Township office or at the fun day.

All are also invited to a pre-fun day evening skate on January 23rd from 7pm to 9pm. Enjoy hot chocolate and a skate on the outdoor rink.

Vendors are needed to sell crafts, gifts and treasures for the indoor display at the Stanhope fun day. Table space is available for \$10 per 4 x 2.5 foot table. For more info on becoming a vendor or the fun day in general, call 766-9968, or 489-2379.

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It's Worth The Drive To Essonville To See This Christmas Display

If you've driven down the Essonville line near Wilberforce lately, (and there wasn't a hydro outage) then no doubt you've seen the amazing Christmas/ Winter lights and decorations put up by area residents Larry and Ruth Strong at their residence at the bottom of vinegar hill. For the past 3 years the couple have been setting up a stunning display at their property, including lots of lights and decorations. In fact they've won the Haliburton Home Hardware "Light Up The Night" contest twice in the past three years for their light display.

So how did the Strong's get into this so much? Ruth explains, "Our home burned down a few years ago, and when we rebuilt, the style of the home just warranted lights. Larry found a lot of the lights on sale and we put them up. Then we were at the Santa parade in Haliburton 3 years ago and the IGA had a big snowman that they were getting rid of, so we took that. Then I made the kids go around it and it just took off from there. We just kept making more additions to it"

Ruth and Larry made almost all the pieces by hand. Ruth made the faces of the people from nylon and stuffing. Each face would take her about a full evening to make and they truly do look amazing! Larry constructed the cut out horse and sleigh and other pieces by hand.

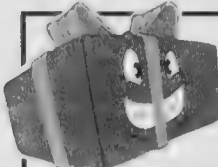
The couple takes around three weeks to put it all up (a little at a time) and leaves the display up until around the 1st week of January. They also like to change it up every year. Some of you may remember the Disney theme from last year.

From the scene of children playing in the snow, the manger scene, to the scene depicting "I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus" which has two children catching their mother with Santa, there's just so much to see that you really need to almost stop your vehicle to see everything. Don't worry, the Strong's don't mind. "We enjoy doing it and people really seem to enjoy it. We do it for the enjoyment of other people. It's a lot of work but the end result is all worth it", says Ruth.

The Strong's leave the lights on a timer until around 10:30pm during the week, and till 11:30pm on weekends. It's definitely worth seeing, even in the daylight. If you want to check it out, follow hwy 121 from Haliburton to the Essonville Line, hang a left and you'll be there in about two minutes on

your left. If coming from Wilberforce, follow the Essonville Line until you reach the bottom of the big





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hill and it's there on your right. It's definitely worth checking out!



Ruth and Larry Strong have a Christmas display you just have to see! Feel free to stop and check it out... they don't mind!!

Have You Ever Wondered?...



With this column we will attempt to answer some puzzling, and sometime bizzare questions that have crossed the minds of many we're sure. For example...

How do they know with any degree of certainty that no two snowflakes are alike and is this true?

No...chances are, in fact, that there are lots of duplicates. What the snowologists really mean is that your chance of finding duplicates is virtually zero. It's been calculated that in a volume of snow two feet square by ten inches deep there are roughly one million flakes. Multiply that by the millions of square miles that are covered by snow each year (nearly one fourth of the earth's land surface), and then multiply that by the billions of winters that have occurred since the dawn of time, and it's obvious we're talking unimaginable googols of flakes. Some of these are surely repeats.

On the other hand, a single snow crystal contains perhaps 100 million molecules, which can be arranged in a gigajillion different ways. By contrast, the number of flakes that have ever been photographed in the history of snow research amounts to a few tens of thousands. So it seems pretty safe to say nobody's ever going to get documentary evidence of duplication. Still, it could happen, and what's more, it could happen to you. If you find you have a lot of time on your hands, well - get out and start looking!!

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How Turkey became the Festive Bird.....

In England, the harvest festival has been celebrated for many years. The story goes that Queen Elizabeth was sitting with the troops eating roast goose to celebrate the harvest festival. News was brought to her that the Spanish Armada had sunk on its way to attack England. The queen was so delighted that she ordered a second goose to celebrate the good news and thus, the goose became the choice bird at festival time in England.

When the pilgrims came to the New World, they carried on the tradition of celebrating the harvest festival but geese were not plentiful. Since there were lots of wild turkeys and they were easier to find, they roasted turkeys instead.

How the Turkey became the Bird of choice at Christmas....

Historically in England, swans, peacocks and cranes were roasted for special occasions. The story goes that because of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol", he is credited for popularizing the serving of turkey for Christmas dinner. Ebenezer Scrooge purchased the large prize winning turkey for Christmas dinner when seeing the error of his ways

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**Merry Christmas To All...
And To All A SECURE NIGHT!!**

from the gang at McKee Security!!

As A Gift Or For Yourself - Think Dog Sledding

Winterdance is an Ontario dogsledding tours company that operates out of the Haliburton Highlands, and is owned and operated by husband and wife team Hank DeBruin and Tanya McCready-DeBruin with "help" from their 2 young sons, Logan 4 and Dustyn 2. Did you know you can discover the thrill of driving a dog team yourself?

Winterdance offers various packages to suit people who just want a taste of dogsledding to people looking for a more complete experience and even people looking for romance!

One Hour Tour

You will be instructed in the basics of dogsledding, including how to harness a dog and hook them to the sled, and how to drive a team of 4 Siberian Huskies. Tours have 2 people per sled with clients taking turns riding and driving.

Half Day Tour

By far our most popular tour as you really get an opportunity to know your dogs and get a true feel for handling a sled! These trips offer a variety of trail conditions, including challenging rugged, forested terrain, and a multiple lake system. Novices are welcome as you will be given complete instructions on rudimentary dogsledding skills.

Full Day Tour

The full day tour starts around 9:00 a.m. with an instruction period of approximately 1-2 hour. You will go into far more detail on dogsledding techniques, styles, etc. then in the shorter trips. There is quite a bit of neat extras offered on this excursion.

Moonlit Run

Dogsledding at night is truly an incredibly moving experience and one that is impossible to put into words. The trips will start around 7:30 p.m. with brief instructions. You will then hit the trail for about 30 minutes until you reach a clearing with a roaring fire. There you will spend about 30 minutes with appropriate refreshments being served. Those looking for some romance will have some private time to gaze at the moon and stars and possibly even hear the howls of wolves. By the time you sled out again, the trip will end around 9:30 p.m.

Prices for these trips range from \$50 up to around \$110 per person. For more information about these adventures, contact the friendly people at Winterdance at 457-5281 or by email info@winterdance.com. Check out their website at www.winterdance.com

Public Skating Available Throughout Haliburton County

Grab your skates and head to any one of the three area arenas during their public skating times and enjoy a few laps around the rink.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden.

There is not a "set day" for public skating in Minden.

Free Public skating in Minden for the month of December and beginning of January the following dates: Tuesday December 23 3:00pm - 5:00 pm, Sunday December 28 3:00pm - 5:00pm, Tuesday December 30 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm and Friday, January 2 from 3 - 5 and Sunday January 4 - 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

More dates will be added in the New Year. We'll try to fill you in at that time, or you can call 286-1936 for dates.

Dysart Community Centre in Haliburton

Public skating is Sundays at 1:00 - 2:15 pm and on Thursdays at 12:00 - 2:00 pm. The cost is \$2 per person on Thursdays and on Sundays the cost is \$1 per person. If there is a hockey tournament planned for that weekend, public skating is cancelled on the Sunday.

Arena Manager Lou Dummitt will try to post upcoming cancellations whenever possible. For more information please call 457-2083.

Highlands East Arena in Wilberforce

Public skating is held every Sunday from 1 - 2 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 per skater.



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Merry Christmas!

Warm Wishes
and
Holiday
Greetings!

Golden's Stationary
Main St. Minden



Santa Claus Parades are always an exciting time of year. Pictured are some of the participants of the recently held Haliburton Santa Parade. Top left is the colourful Haliburton Snowmobile Club float. To the right of that is the creative Haliburton IGA Float (or at least part of it - it was quite spectacular). Next to that are live walking presents... and last, but not least, to the left are members of the Haliburton ATV Association who handed out candy to all the spectators!!

CLEAROUT

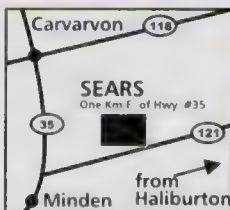
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The Gift Of Song:



Blue Christmas

I'll have a blue christmas
without you;
I'll be so blue thinking about
you.
Decorations of red on a green
christmas tree
Won't mean a thing if you're
not here with me
I'll have a blue christmas, that's
certain;
And when that blue heartache
starts hurtin',
You'll be doin' all right with
your christmas of white.
But I'll have a blue, blue
christmas

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for
his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down
his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep
on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the
baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying
he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look
down from the sky,
And stay by my side until
morning is nigh

Once again this year we are pleased to present to you the words to some of the more popular Christmas songs. Now you have no excuse for not joining in and singing along to these popular songs at Christmas time. We have had to shorten a couple of the songs due to space, but for the most part, enough is here to get you singing!! Enjoy!!

The Christmas Song

Chestnuts roasting on an open
fire
Jack Frost nipping on your
nose
Yuletide carols being sung by a
choir
And folks dressed up like
Eskimos

Everybody knows a turkey and
some mistletoe
Help to make the season bright
Tiny tots with their eyes all
aglow
Will find it hard to sleep
tonight

They know that Santa's on his
way
He's loaded lots of toys and
goodies on his sleigh
And every mother's child is
going to spy
To see if reindeer really know
how to fly

And so I'm offering this simple
phrase
To kids from one to ninety-two
Although its been said many
times, many ways
Merry Christmas to you

Where Are You Christmas

Where are you Christmas
Why can't I find you
Why have you gone away
Where is the laughter
You used to bring me
Why can't I hear music play

My world is changing
I'm rearranging
Does that mean Christmas
changes too

Where are you Christmas
Do you remember
The one you used to know
I'm not the same one
See what the time's done
Is that why you have let me go

Christmas is here everywhere, oh
Christmas is here if you care, oh

If there is love in your heart and
your mind
You will feel like Christmas all
the time

I feel you Christmas
I know I've found you
You never fade away
The joy of Christmas
Stays here in silence
Fills each and every heart with
love

Where are you Christmas
Fills your heart with love

God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray.

Chorus:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly Father
A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tiding of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.
(Chorus)

"Fear not, then," said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Saviour
Of a pure virgin birth,
To free all those who trust in him
From Satan's power and might."
(Chorus)

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and
brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
Doth bring redeeming grace.
(Chorus)

GOLD WEATHER CAUSING YOU TO HIBERNATE?

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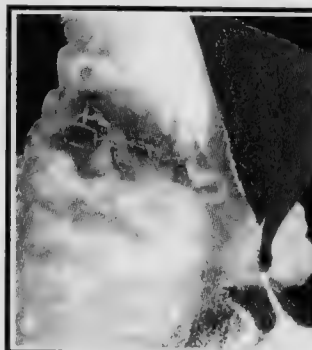
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Holiday Magic

May the joy and wonder of
the holidays fill your family
with happiness.

*Eileen, Joe,
and Eleanor*

**Jadek Sports
Minden**



Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the snowman Was a jolly, happy soul, With a corncob pipe and a button nose And two eyes made out of coal.

Frosty the Snow Man Is a fairy tale, they say; He was made of snow, but the children know How he came to life one day.

There must have been some magic in That old silk hat they found, For when they placed it on his head, He began to dance around.

Oh, Frosty the snow man Was alive as he could be, And the children say he could laugh and play, Just the same as you and me.

Frosty the snow man Knew the sun was hot that day, So he said, "Let's run and we'll have some fun Now before I melt away."

Down to the village, With a broomstick in his hand, Running here and there all around the square, Sayin', "Catch me if you can."

He led them down the streets of town Right to a traffic cop, And he only paused a moment when He heard him holler "Stop!"

For Frosty the snow man Had to hurry on his way, But he waved good-bye, sayin', "Don't you cry, I'll be back again someday."

Thumpety thump thump, thumpety thump thump, Look at Frosty go; Thumpety thump thump, thumpety thump thump, Over the hills of snow.

Rocking Around The Christmas Tree

Rockin' around the Christmas tree At the Christmas party hop! Mistletoe hung where you can see; Ev'ry couple tries to stop

Rockin' around the Christmas tree Let the Christmas spirit ring! Later we'll have some pun'kin pie And we'll do some caroling

You will get a sentimental feeling When you hear Voices singing "Let's be jolly, Deck the halls with boughs of holly!"

Rockin' around the Christmas tree have a happy holiday! Ev'ryone dancing merrily In the new old fashioned way!



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We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Chorus
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect Light

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again, King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign, Chorus

Frankincense to offer have I Incense owns a Deity nigh Prayer and praising all men raising, worship Him, God on high, Chorus

Myrrh is mine: Its bitter perfume breaths a life of gathering gloom, Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb, Chorus

The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say, Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep

Chorus
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Isreal

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the the East, beyond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night

And by the light of that same star, Three wise men came from country far; To seek for a King was then intent, And to follow the star wherever it went

Life is a trail...
How you ride it is up to you!



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Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature
sing

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and
grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

Jingle Bell Rock

Jingle bell jingle bell jingle bell
Rock
Jingle bell swing & jingle bell ring
Snowing & blowing up bushel of
fun
Now the jingle hearts began

Jingle bell jingle bell jingle bell
Rock
Jingle bell chime & jingle bell time
Dancing and prancing in jingle
bell square
In the frosty air

Wow! The bright tiem is in the
right time
To rock the night away
Jingle bell time is a swell time
To go gliding in a one-horse sleigh

Giddy up - jingle horse pick up
your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and mingle in a jingling beat
That's the jingle bell jingle bell
jingle bell rock

The Grinch's Song

You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch
You really are a heel,
You're as cuddly as a cactus,
you're as charming as an eel,
Mr. Grinch,
You're a bad banana with a
greasy black peel!

You're a monster, Mr. Grinch,
Your heart's an empty hole,
Your brain is full of spiders,
you have garlic in your soul,
Mr. Grinch,
I wouldn't touch you with a
thirty-nine-and-a-half foot
pole!

You're a foul one, Mr. Grinch,
You have termites in your
smile,
You have all the tender sweet-
ness of a seasick crocodile, Mr
Grinch,
Given a choice between the two
of you I'd take the seasick
crocodile!

You're a rotter, Mr. Grinch,
You're the king of sinful sots,
Your heart's a dead tomato
spotted with moldy purple
spots, Mr. Grinch,
You're a three decker sauerkraut
and toadstool sandwich with
arsenic sauce!

You nauseate me, Mr. Grinch,
With a nauseous super "naus"!,
You're a crooked dirty jockey
and you drive a crooked hoss,
Mr. Grinch,
Your soul is an appalling dump
heap overflowing with the most
disgraceful
assortment of rubbish imagin-
able mangled up in tangled up
knots!

You're a foul one, Mr. Grinch,
You're a nasty wasty skunk,
Your heart is full of unwashed
socks, your soul is full of gunk,
Mr. Grinch,
The three words that best
describe you are as follows, and
I quote,
"Stink, stank, stunk"!

Little Drummer Boy

Come they told me
pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see,
pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring
pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
So to honor Him
pa rum pum pum pum,
when we come.

Little Baby

pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too,
pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring
pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give our King
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you!
pa rum pum pum
on my drum.

Mary nodded

pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time
pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him
pa rum pum pum
I played my best for Him
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
Then He smiled at me
pa rum pum pum pum
me and my drum.

Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be
forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be
forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness
yet,
for auld lang syne

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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies:
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heaven
adored;

Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;

Hail the incarnate Deity,

Pleased as man with man to
dwell;

Jesus, our Emmanuel! (Refrain)

Mild he lays his glory by:
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of
Peace! (Refrain)

Come, Desire of nations come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
Rise, the Woman's conquering
Seed,

Bruise in us the Serpent's head,
Adam's likeness now efface;
Stamp Thine image in its place;
Second Adam, from above,

Reinstate us in thy love
(Refrain)

War is Over

So this is Christmas
And what have you done
Another year over
And a new one just begun
And so this is Christmas
I hope you have fun
The near and the dear ones
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

And so this is Christmas
For weak and for strong
For rich and the poor ones
The world is so wrong
And so Happy Christmas
For black and for white
For yellow and red ones
Let's stop all the fight

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

And so this is Christmas
And what have we done
Another year over
And a new one just begun
And so Happy Christmas
I hope you have fun
The near and the dear one
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

War is over if you want it
War is over now

Let It Snow!

Oh! the weather outside is
frightful
But the fire is so delightful
And since we've no place to go
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

It doesn't show signs of stopping
And I brought some corn for
popping
The lights are turned way down
low
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

When we finally kiss good night
How I'll hate going out in the
storm
But if you'll really hold me tight
All the way home I'll be warm

The fire is slowly dying
And, my dear, we're still good
byeing
But as long as you love me so
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth

Come they told me
Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum
A new born king to see
Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum
Our finest gifts we bring
Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum
Rum-pum-pum-pum
Rum-pum-pum-pum

Peace on earth, can it be
Years from now, perhaps we'll see
See the day of glory
See the day when men of good will
Live in peace, live in peace again

Peace on earth, can it be

Every child must be made aware
Every child must be made to care
Care enough for his fellow man
To give all the love that he can

I pray my wish will come true
For my child and your child too
He'll see the day of glory
See the day when men of good will
Live in peace, live in peace again

Peace on earth, can it be
Can it be



Wishing You all the best

*May the sights
and sounds that
make this a special time
stay with you throughout the coming year*

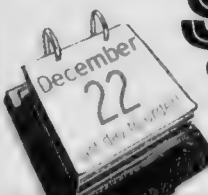
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Deck the Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
I roll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Strike the harp and join the chorus,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
While I tell of Yuletide treasure,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.

Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and
child.
Holy infant so tender and
mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven
afar,
Heavely hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Saviour, is born!
Christ the Saviour, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy
face,
With the dawn of redeeming
grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to
Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O Come, let us adore him, Christ
the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above;
Glory to God
In the highest: Refrain

See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to
gaze;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
Refrain

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with
love and awe;
Who would not live thee,
Loving us so dearly? Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing: Refrain

Up on the House Top

Up on the house top reindeer
pause
Out jumps good old Santa Claus
Down thro' the chimney with
lots of toys,
All for the little ones, Christmas
joys

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

First comes the stocking of little
Nell
Oh dear Santa, fill it well
Give her a dollie that laughs and
crys
One that will open and shut her
eyes

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

Next comes the stocking of little
Will
Oh just see what a glorious fill
Here is a hammer and lots of
tacks
Also a ball and a whip that cracks

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

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*Merry Christmas
to All Critters!!*



286-1172

Heritage Plaza * Minden

December is Christmas, but for Brett and I, It also
marks our third birthday for the Communicator. We
want to take this time to thank everyone who have been
so supportive over the past two years.

I can't believe the number of calls, kind words of
encouragement and support we receive - even after this
long. We really appreciate you, our readers and all our
advertisers - It is because of all of you that we do this,
and we are having a great time.

We encourage your participation - if you have an event -
give us a call - we will write about it. If you know
someone who with an interesting story... well.. let us
know... We want to make 2004's issues even better!!

We look forward to a great 2004 - our 3rd Year in
Business!! Enjoy & Remember to Smile!!



THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

The holidays are a special time, full
of love and laughter family and friends.
We'd like to wish you and your family peace
and prosperity now and in the months ahead
May this holiday season be your best one yet
and may your home and our community be
blessed with all that Christmas brings

Happy Holidays!

*from Jim Chatterton & Family
Rainbow Renovations*



Do You Hear What I Hear?

Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb
Do you see what I see?

A star, a star
Dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing thru the sky, shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?

A song, a song
High above the tree
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king
Do you know what I know?

A Child, a Child
Shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold
Let us bring Him silver and gold

Said the king to the people ev'rywhere
Listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people ev'rywhere
Listen to what I say!

The Child, the Child
Sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light

Winter Wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you list'nin'?
In the lane snow is glist'nin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!
Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is the new bird
He sings a love song as we go along
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

In the meadow we can build a snowman
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown
He'll say "Are you married?" We'll say, "No, man!"
but you can do the job when you're in town!"

Later on we'll conspire
As we dream by the fire
To face unafraid, the plans that we made
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!
Sleigh bells ring, are you list'nin'?
In the lane snow is glist'nin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!
Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is the new bird
He's singing a song as we go along
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

In the meadow we can build a snowman
And pretend he's a circus clown
We'll have lots of fun with Mister Snowman
Until the older kiddies knock 'im down!

When it snows, ain't it thrillin'
Tho' your nose gets a chillin'
We'll frolic and play the Eskimo way
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Silver Bells

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks
Dressed in holiday style
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas

Children laughing, people passing
Meeting smile after smile
And on ev'ry street corner you hear:

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas day

Strings of street lights, even stop lights
Blink a bright red and green
As the shoppers rush home with their treasures

Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch
This is Santa's big scene
And above all this bustle you hear:

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas day

White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the tree tops glisten
and the children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white



Warm thoughts at Christmas

Hope your Christmas
and New Year are
filled with warm
thoughts and
glad tidings.

From everyone at

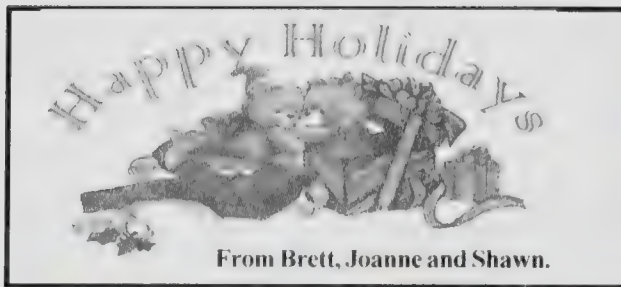
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*Season's
Greetings*



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Spot The Differences

Can you spot the 13 differences in these two pictures.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all our readers, advertisers, friends and family!!

Scrooge: his hat is taller, cane handle is missing, button missing from shoe, the missing from cape, sleeve is now black not white, piece of hat missing, Santa: stripe on belt is black, handle from bell gone, boot all black, eyebrow now bigger, lines on glove gone, his nose is larger fold line in hat gone

Because We Think Everyone Needs a Little Hug Sometimes!

Have a Beary Merry Christmas from Carol, Bob and Friends at Teddy Time!

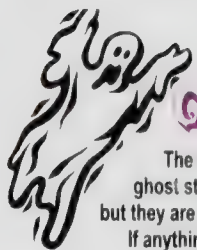
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website: www.teddytime.com

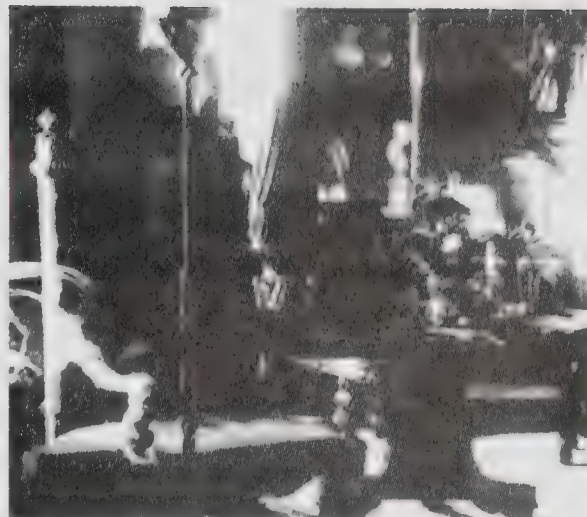


GHOST STORIES

The following is a fun little column for those who like ghost stories... Whether these are true or not we don't know, but they are stories told by those who believe they saw real ghosts!! If anything, they do make for interesting little stories... enjoy...

Tulip Staircase Ghost

Rev. Ralph Hardy, a retired clergyman from White Rock, British Columbia, took this now-famous photograph in 1966. He intended merely to photograph the elegant spiral staircase (known as the "Tulip Staircase") in the Queen's House section of the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, England. Upon development, however, the photo revealed a shrouded figure climbing the stairs, seeming to hold the railing with both hands. Experts, including some from Kodak, who examined the original negative concluded that it had not been tampered with. It's been said that unexplained figures have been seen on occasion in the vicinity of the staircase, and unexplained footsteps have also been heard.



Interesting side note: This photo isn't the only evidence of ghostly activity at the Queen's House. The 400-year-old building is credited with several other apparitions and phantom footsteps even today. Recently, a Gallery Assistant was discussing a tea break with two colleagues when he saw one of the doors to the Bridge Room close by itself. At first he thought it was one of the lecturers. "Then I saw a woman glide across the balcony, and pass through the wall on the west balcony," he said. "I couldn't believe what I saw. I went very cold and the hair on my arms and my neck stood on end. We all

dashed through to the Queen's Presents Room and looked down towards the Queen's Bedroom. Something passed through the ante-room and out through the wall. Then my colleagues all froze too. The lady was dressed in a white-grey colour crinoline type dress." Other ghostly goings-on include the unexplained choral chanting of children, the figure of a pale woman frantically mopping blood at the bottom of the Tulip Staircase (it's said that 300 years ago a maid was thrown from the highest banister, plunging 50 feet to her death), slamming doors, and even tourists being pinched by unseen fingers.

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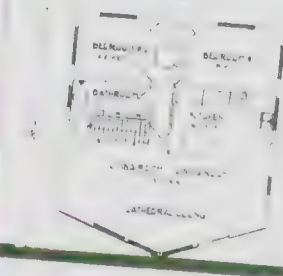
The Redstone

Prow front with windows stretching up to the cathedral ceiling allows ample sunlight and provides the living room with a glow of warmth. the master bedroom offers privacy and seclusion with its own ensuite, linen cupboard and walk-in closet apart from the rest of the house on the second floor.

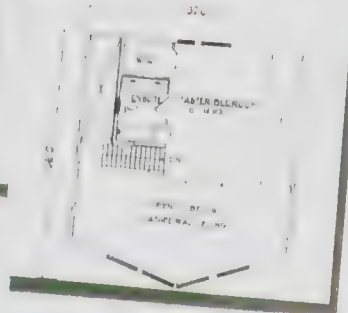
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Second floor 413 sq. ft.



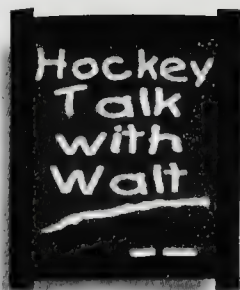
**A New Home
for the New Year!!**

754-4342

STEPHEN SOININEN

loghomes@on.aibn.com





Christmas is my favourite holiday time of the year. It is great to be around all our family and friends. I have so many fond memories of Christmas in my hometown of London Ont. (I now call Haliburton and Eagle Lake my hometown.) I have told you in previous columns that I didn't know how my mom and grandmother did it on their income. Christmas is always very special. My mom and grandmother always made sure there were many presents under the tree for my sister, my cousin, and myself. At Christmas I would always get new hockey equipment or a new stick. I can remember getting my 1st pair of Tackebury skates made by CCM. The 1st year I had them I think they either slept under my bed or near my bed for sure at all times. I would always dry them off and put Dubin on them after to protect the leather. I took great pride in taking good care of all my hockey equipment. My mother only wished that I would take care of my other chores I had to do like I took care of my equipment.

Like all families, moms and grammas always cooked the best turkey dinners, and could my grandmother ever bake! She bade the best homemade Christmas pudding and what made it so good was her homemade rum sauce for the pudding. (maybe that's why I've had the odd rum over the years.) Grammas butter tarts were like they

were supposed to be – yummy! Her pies were unbelievable! I can still remember my Christmas a lot when growing up, my mom and grandma made sure we had lots of presents and lots of food. You probably wonder what it was like being a NHL player and being away from home at Christmas. In my 17 yrs of pro hockey I think I was home about 3 yrs for Christmas. This is when I played for Detroit or Toronto and I'd go home for about 24 hrs. It was always a rush, but it was worth it. Needless to say I'd always put on a few pounds on that day.

Being a pro player meant you didn't have a lot of time to spend with your families because your schedule just didn't allow it. Usually we were off for about 2 days and then it would be back to playing. It was hard at first because I'd miss my mom and grandma but you'd just have to accept it.

A few of the years my mom would come to visit with me where I was playing and it wasn't the same as being at home but we'd make the most of it.

You probably wonder what NHL players so on New Years Eve. New Years Eve is not a big important time for me. Many times we had to play a game that night. When I played for Detroit we always had to play on New Years Eve. I can remember on NYE we were playing at the Olympia in Detroit. It was one of the best old hockey buildings around. It had so much character and history to it. After the game we would go up to Bruce Morris' suite- he was the owner and we'd have a party. We always parked out behind the Olympia, which was located in a really rough part of the city. We came out after a party and the police were out around our cars. They told us that people in the neighbourhood were celebrating and shooting at our cars. When we came out one of the guy's cars had bullet holes in it. I was lucky that my car was missed. It sounds pretty bizarre but that's what it was like back in that era. I loved playing in Detroit and living there, you just had to know where to go and where not to go. On New Years Eve we always made the best of it but it was never a special night for us because we were playing and usually away from family and fans.

I often think about all the men and women who are away from home at Christmas because they are in some strange country trying to preserve peace. That must be so hard on their families. I guess we didn't have it so hard. I was thinking the other day about one of our local boys who is playing Jr A hockey in Oshawa, Chris Petrow. I gave him a call to see how he was doing. He said he was having a good year- playing a lot of hockey- sometimes 30 minutes per game. Chris was drafted last year by Anaheim but it didn't work out for him so he is a free agent and can be drafted again, which should be good for Chris because he is having a great year. Chris said he was coming home for Christmas and will be in the community for a few days. I know he will drop into McKecks Place and I look forward to talking to him about his career. He was saying he was looking forward to seeing his family and friends and it's great that he's playing so close to Haliburton.

Chris also said that his home games are on Friday and Sunday nights and anyone who loves hockey should come down and watch a game.

I know how I have expressed how much I love Christmas and being with family and friends, but I will admit I enjoyed playing in the NHL for 16 years and it was just one of the sacrifices I had to make. I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. I'm looking forward to another Christmas in Eagle Lake with all my family and friends. Merry Christmas to you all! Walt.

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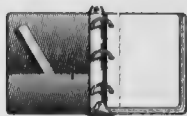
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If a tree falls in the forest, and no one is around to see it, do the other trees make fun of it?



SCHOOL NEWS FROM JDH

by the students  for the students!



Melissa's Monthly Hodgepodge

Hi! My name is Melissa Dudgeon. I am the new JDH reporter for the Highlands Communicator.

I am in the eighth grade and I am thirteen years old. I moved to Ontario from a little place in Alberta called Canmore, a mountain town. I love to write. I even write in class sometimes when I'm not supposed to! Anyways, if you have any tidbits of news around the school that I should know, feel free to email me at gwen_rosedale336@yahoo.com Peace out!

Holiday Happenings at JDHES...

Yes folks it's that time of year. Jack Frost at the window with his paintbrush and Santa reviewing his list. The jaguars at JDH are celebrating the holidays too!

In the lobby in front of the office, there is a collection box of food, and gifts for those less fortunate.

We are also having a turkey shoot. No not shooting turkeys, Sink 10 baskets and you win a Christmas turkey.

Also, the Christmas concert is coming up on the 19th. Seeing as it happens during school, it is for the students only.

We are having an oldies dance. Wear an outfit from the 50's and 60's!

So whatever the holidays may bring, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

**Reminder: Last day of school is December 19 (Yeah!!)
Back to School: January 5th, 2004 (Boooo!!)**

Brain Teaser of the Month



You may think that you can repeat a simple word aloud and it will stay the same word no matter how many times you repeat it. This, however, is not the case here. Say the word "say" over and over again rapidly. At some point it will become the word "ace". It will stay "ace" for a while, and then shift abruptly back to "say". Try this one on your friends.

Warm Wishes

from

GONYEA

EAVES & SIDING

A HUGE Thank You

To all my customers and friends. Here's wishing you a wonderful and safe Holiday!!

Paul Gonyea

286-6224



Be nice to nerds and geeks in High School, you'll be working for them in the future.

Season's Greetings

Sending our best wishes for a joyous holiday season

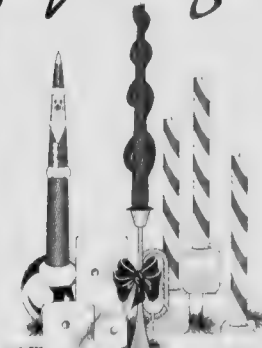


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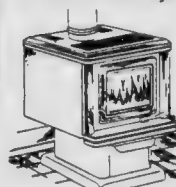
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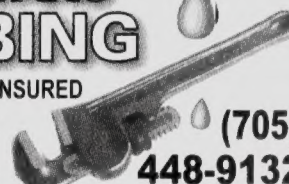
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How would you like to win \$50 cash? Well it's easy with the Communicator!

Just read all the ads and keep an eye out for Sam – The advertising man. We will be hiding a few Sams in various ads throughout the publication, so look for more than one. Once you think you have found all the Sams you can, write down how many you spotted, in what ads, the publication date, your name, address and telephone number, and mail them, email them or fax them to the Highlands Communicator.

The first correct answer pulled from entries received wins \$50! It's that easy and it's fun too!

Hello, I'm Sam
the Advertising
Man. Spot me for
your chance to
WIN \$50.00
Just read how!



There were 9 Sam's in last month's issue. They were in the following ads: County Sign & Display, T Blair Sawmill, Montage Real Estate, Algonquin Projects, My Crazy Aunts Attic, Sears Catalogue in Haliburton, Woody's Restaurant, Curves, and Donaldson Electric.

**The winner of last month's Spot Sam contest is
Sharyn Larter of Haliburton**

The winner of the NHL Hockey Tickets will be announced in the January issue. The winner will be contacted prior to Christmas.



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The Gooderham Community Action Group thanks the vendors who braved the November 28/29 winter storm to come to the 3rd Annual Crafty Christmas Sale at the Gooderham Community Centre. Seasons Greetings to you all.

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Environmental Assessment of a Proposed Bell Canada Tower Site on Hadlington Road

Bell Canada is planning to construct a telecommunications tower, approximately 200 feet in height, on the Hadlington Road. The new tower will give residents of that area access to basic phone service.

A site for the tower has been selected, as shown on the accompanying map. As you may be aware, that site is on Crown land. In order to acquire rights to the site, Bell Canada has applied to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) for a long-term license of occupation. To fulfill its obligations under the provincial Environmental Assessment Act, the MNR must evaluate the potential impacts that the tower could have on the natural environment and on existing human activities, before making a decision about Bell's application. In this regard, input from the local residents who could be affected by the tower will be taken into consideration. Both supporting and critical comments may be expressed.

You are invited to direct any comments you may have about the proposed tower to: Scott Bird, Minden Area Office, P.O. Box 820, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, Tel: (705) 286-5223, Fax: (705) 286-4355, email: scott.bird@mnr.gov.on.ca

Any inquiries that you may have concerning the actual tower or the activities involved in its construction should be made to: Brian Revrink, Seniro Project Manager, 479 Clarence St., C2, London, Ontario, N6A 4L6, Tel: (519) 661-2613, Fax: (519) 660-0345, email: brevrink@nexacor.ca

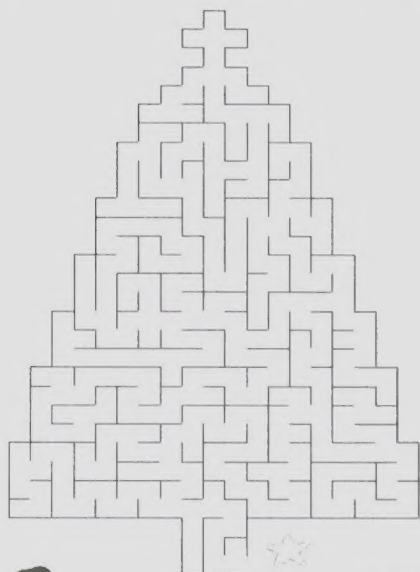
Comments must be received by the MNR before January 5, 2004. Please be aware that your comments may be forwarded to Bell Canada, unless you specifically request otherwise.

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS
TO ALL!!**

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A-MAZE YOURSELF



This issue you
are looking for
Sam with the
Santa Hat... This
Sam doesn't
count as one.

Who Dun-it answer

Solution

Minden suspected the
young man in the T-
shirt. Only he had the
sort of footwear (sneak-
ers) that would have
been quiet enough on a
hardwood floor for him
to have committed the
crime in absolute
silence.

TOPS Planning Open House

If weight loss is one of your
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maybe you should seek the
assistance and support of
others through TOPS - (Taking
Off Pounds Sensibly). This
group meets every Monday
Morning at 9:30 a.m. at the
Home Support office in
Haliburton.

The group is planning an open
house for sometime in January,
although at press time, the date
was not yet set.

For more information, or to
find out the date and time of
the open house, call Yvonne
Talyor at 286-4905.

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Kennisis and Redstone Lake Realty Centre

Countrywide®
HALIBURTON REALTY LTD. ...the obvious choice

Countrywide®
Independent
Member
Broker

14 plus acres, nicely wooded with 1200 ft of Redstone river frontage, total privacy. Every ones dream property. 1-3 bedroom home, custom cabinetry, wood floors, cathedral ceilings with skylights. Full walkout lower level. Oil fired water heat including the 20x40 work shop. Carport 22 x 24 and 2 other covered storage areas. Enjoy the seasons from a large gazebo overlooking the river. All this and more for only

\$239,000



Kushog Lake \$295,000.00

Over 1/2 acre on Kushog Lake. 2100 sq ft cottage/ home, full w/o lower level. Lge LR, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Suitable for Bed and Breakfast, family cottage. Has C zoning if desired to run as a marina and has one boat shed that could be leased out or use yourself. Also avail is a 7.79 acre property across the road with 2 boat storage sheds. Asking **\$69,000.00** (Cottage must sell first).

Purchase as a package for \$329,000.00



Newly renovated updated home in the town of Haliburton. Bright open kitchen, low maintenance exterior. Screened porch on the front with lighted walkway and deck out the back over looking the beautiful back yard. Walk to town for all amenities.

\$89,900.00



**At the Holiday
Season, our
thoughts turn
gratefully to
those who
have made
our progress
possible. It is
in this spirit we say... Thank you and
Best Wishes For The Holidays And A
Happy New Year!**

**Gloria Carnochan/Cindy Muenzel and families
Mother/Daughter Team
Countrywide Haliburton Realty Ltd**



Well maintained 3 bedroom Viceroy cottage on Little Kennisis. Treed for privacy, fire pit, large deck at cottage for BBQ's and entertaining. Newer renovations include kitchen, flooring, pine walls in living room, steel roof and septic.

\$249,000.00



Looking for a home close to town? Check out this beautifully maintained 1250 sq. ft. 3 bedroom home with den/office. Some features are a eat in kitchen, dining room with sliding doors to large back deck and living room. It also has a 4 piece bath up stairs and a 2 piece down with hook up for a jacuzzi bath. Also down stairs is a large family room with pine wainscoting, bar area, laundry room and 2 storage rooms to do with what may. The back yard has lots of room for the children to play Or enjoy a relaxing evening & BBQ.

\$169,900.00



Hidden from the road and neighbours, well maintained property on Kennisis Lake. 3 bdrm cottage fully winterized & also a cabin. All wood interior, cathedral ceilings, carpet through out. Full wall fireplace, and electric baseboard. Lge DR & kitchen for entertaining. Deck on 2 sides gives lot of space to sun or entertain. Deck and dock at waters edge. Southern exp. with great view of Kennisis Lake.

\$439,000.00

Vacant Waterfront Lots

Ideal building lot, 2 acres with 250 ft frontage on Kennisis Lake with big lake view. Area of prestiges cottages. Well treed and private. Sand and rock shore and deep water. Year round road with hydro at road. **Asking \$269,000.00**

Bear(Growler)Lake

Newly opened lake development just north of Haliburton. Lots ranging from \$150,000. to \$250,000. with frontages starting at 177 ft. to 1980 ft.. Having acreages from .89 to 160. Near Kennisis and Redstone Lakes and Haliburton Forest and Wildlife. Selling quickly call now for more info.

